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METALLOPROTEINASE INHIBITOR

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5 ~~This application~~ is a continuation-in-part application of Ser. No. 355,027 filed May 19, 1989 hereby incorporated by reference.

The present invention relates in general to metalloproteinase inhibitors and to polynucleotides encoding such factors. In particular, the invention relates to a novel mammalian metalloproteinase inhibitor (MI), to fragments and polypeptide analogs thereof and to polynucleotides encoding the same.

Background of the Invention

15 Connective tissues are maintained in dynamic equilibrium by the opposing effects of cellular connective tissue synthesis and extracellular degradation. The extracellular connective tissue matrix consists predominantly of collagens, with proteoglycans, fibronectin, laminin and other minor components making up the remainder.

Degradation of the matrix is brought about by the release of neutral metalloproteinases from resident connective tissue cells and invading inflammatory cells that are capable of degrading at physiological pH most of the matrix macromolecules. The proteinases include the mammalian tissue collagenases, gelatinases, and proteoglycanases; leukocyte collagenase and gelatinase [Murphy et al. Biochem. J. 283, 289-221 (1982); Hibbs et al., J. Biol. Chem. 260, 2493-2500 (1985)]; macrophage collagenase and elastase [Werb et al. J. Exp. Med. 142, 346-360 (1975); Banda et al., Biochem. J. 193, 589-605 (1981)]; and tumour collagenases [Liotta et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 76 2268-2272 (1979); Liotta et al., Biochem. Biophys. Res. Commun. 98, 124-198 (1981); and Salo et al.,

J. Biol. Chem. 258, 3058-3063 (1983)]. For a general review of collagenases and their role in normal and pathological connective tissue turnover see Collagenase in Normal and Pathological Connective Tissues,

- 5 David E. Woolley and John M. Evanson, eds., John Wiley & Sons Ltd. (1988).

There are over five different collagen types (I, II, III, IV, V, etc.) which are differently distributed among tissues. There is considerable
10 homology and structural similarity among the various collagen types. Particular collagenases are specific for particular collagen types. With regard to inhibition of collagenases and other matrix-degrading metalloproteinases, it is possible that, depending on
15 the actual enzymes, substrates, and inhibitory mechanisms, an inhibitor could act on just one, on several, or on all collagenases and metalloproteinases.

The underlying basis of degradative diseases of connective tissue points to the matrix-specific
20 metalloproteinases as having a fundamental role in the aetiology of these diseases. Such diseases include dystrophic epidermolysis bullosa; rheumatoid arthritis; corneal, epidermal or gastric ulceration; periodontal disease; emphysema; bone disease; and tumor metastasis
25 or invasion, and are discussed in more detail under the section Detailed Description of the Invention.

Most studies on connective tissue degradation and diseases involving such degradation have limited the measurement of metalloproteinases to collagenase (the
30 most widely studied of this group of metalloproteinases). It is understood however, that the simultaneous effects of collagenase and the other matrix-degrading metalloproteinases will exacerbate the degradation of the connective tissue over that achieved
35 by collagenase alone.

Specific natural inhibitors of collagenase were discovered in crude medium from cultured connective tissues. A metalloproteinase inhibitor known as TIMP (tissue inhibitor of metalloproteinases) has been
5 studied with regard to physicochemical properties and the biochemistry of its interaction with collagenase [Murphy et al., J. Biochem. 195, 167-170 (1981); Cawston et al., J. Biochem. 211, 313-318 (1983); Stricklin et al. J. Biol. Chem. 258, 12252-12258 (1983)], and its
10 gene has been isolated [Docherty et al. Nature 318, 65-69 (1985); Carmichael et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 83, 2407-2411 (1986)]. In an in vitro cell culture model of tumor cell migration through a natural basement membrane, TIMP was able to arrest migration of a
15 collagenase-secreting tumor cell line [Thorgeirsson et al., J. Natl. Canc. Inst. 69, 1049-1054 (1982)]. In vivo mouse lung colonization by murine B16-F10 melanoma cells was inhibited by injections of TIMP [Schultz et al., Cancer Research 48, 5539-5545
20 (1988)]. European patent application 189784 also relates to TIMP.

McCartney et al. [Eur. J. Biochem. 130, 79-83 (1983)] reported the purification of a metalloproteinase inhibitor from human leukocytes.

25 DeClerck et al. [Cancer Research 46, 3580-3586 (1986)] described the presence of two inhibitors of collagenase in conditioned medium from bovine aortic endothelial cells.

Murray et al. [J. Biol. Chem. 261, 4154-4159
30 (1986)] reported the purification and partial amino acid sequence of a bovine cartilage-derived collagenase inhibitor. The amino-terminal amino acid sequence of bovine MI of the subject invention is very similar to that reported by Murray et al. for the bovine cartilage-
35 derived collagenase inhibitor (94% homology over first 38 residues), and the amino acid compositions are

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similar also. Murray et al. (J. Biol. Chem., supra) pointed out that the bovine cartilage-derived inhibitor had greater than 65% homology to human TIMP over the first 23 residues and that the amino-terminal sequences were "quite similar." Until the present work, no additional molecules related to or homologous to TIMP had ever been isolated from the same species from which a TIMP had been isolated. In the present work, two metalloproteinase inhibitors have been isolated and purified, and extensively characterized, from the same species (bovine) and indeed from the same cell conditioned medium. It is therefore clear that although they are related, as indicated, they cannot both be the bovine homolog of TIMP. One of them (peak II-derived), also as indicated, is probably bovine TIMP. The other (peak I-derived) must consequently be a new and additional molecule. Based on this discovery, it is apparent, for the first time, that there is a homologous inhibitor additional to TIMP encoded by the human genome. This human gene, i.e., the human MI gene, is set forth in Example 3.

To the extent that metalloproteinase inhibitors such as those described herein may prove to be therapeutically significant and hence need to be available in commercial scale quantities, isolation from cultures of naturally-occurring cells is unlikely to provide an adequate source of materials.

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Summary of the Invention

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According to the present invention, a novel metalloproteinase inhibitor (MI), as well as analogs of MI, are provided. Also provided are DNA sequences coding for all or part of MI, vectors containing such DNA sequences, and host cells transformed or transfected with such vectors. Also comprehended by the invention

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are methods of producing recombinant MI, and methods of treating disorders. Additionally, pharmaceutical compositions including MI and antibodies specifically binding MI are provided.

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Brief Description of the Drawings

Note that in all Figures showing sodium dodecyl sulfate (SDS)-polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (PAGE), numbered marks at the left represent migration positions of standards having molecular weights of 10^3 times the indicated numbers. These markers were phosphorylase b (M_r of 97,400), bovine serum albumin (BSA; M_r of 66,200), ovalbumin (M_r of 42,700) carbonic anhydrase (M_r of 31,000), soybean trypsin inhibitor (M_r of 21,500), and lysozyme (M_r of 14,400). The standards were always reduced, even when some other samples run on the same gel were unreduced.

20 Figure 1 shows the cDNA sequence and amino acid sequence of bovine metalloproteinase inhibitor.

Figure 2 shows the cDNA sequence and amino acid sequence of human metalloproteinase inhibitor.

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Figure 3 shows anion exchange chromatography used in purification of bovine peak I-derived metalloproteinase inhibitor (MI).

30 Figure 4 shows chromatofocusing used in purification of bovine peak I-derived metalloproteinase inhibitor (MI).

35 Figures 5A shows SDS-PAGE of bovine peak I-derived metalloproteinase inhibitor (MI) and peak II-derived metalloproteinase inhibitor. A is

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SDS-PAGE with silver-staining, B is SDS-gelatin PAGE, and C is SDS-PAGE with immunoblotting.

Figure 6 shows effect of EDTA and of bovine peak I-derived metalloproteinase inhibitor (MI) on gelatinolytic proteinases run on SDS-gelatin PAGE.

Figure 7 shows autoradiography illustrating effect of bovine peak I-derived metalloproteinase inhibitor (MI) on specific collagen cleavage.

Figure 8 shows a diagram of plasmid constructions made for expression of recombinant human metalloproteinase inhibitor in Escherichia coli.

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Figure 9 shows a synthetic DNA fragment constructed for use in the expression of recombinant human metalloproteinase inhibitor in E. coli, containing a ribosome binding site, an initiation methionine codon, and codons for the first 42 amino acids of the mature protein.

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Figure 10 shows vectors used for expression of recombinant human metalloproteinase inhibitor in yeast.

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Figure 11 shows vectors used for isolation of yeast secretion mutants.

Figure 12 shows the structure of mammalian cell expression vector pDSR α 2-MI.

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Figure 13 shows SDS-gelatin PAGE for bovine metalloproteinase inhibitors and for recombinant human metalloproteinase inhibitor (MI) produced in E. coli.

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Figure 14 shows effect of EDTA and of E. coli-produced recombinant human metalloproteinase inhibitor (MI) on gelatinolytic proteinase run on SDS-gelatin PAGE.

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Figures 15^{2nd 15B} shows that recombinant human metalloproteinase inhibitor from Chinese hamster ovary (CHO) cells inhibits the degradation of type I collagen and type IV collagen by metalloproteinases secreted by metastatic cells.

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Figure 16 shows the effect of recombinant human metalloproteinase inhibitor from E. coli on the degradation of connective tissue matrices deposited by smooth muscle cells which occurs in the presence of tumor cells.

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Figure 17 shows the effect of recombinant human metalloproteinase inhibitor from Chinese hamster ovary (CHO) cells on the degradation of connective tissue matrices deposited by smooth muscle cells which occurs in the presence of tumor cells.

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Figures 18^{2nd 18B} shows the effects of recombinant human metalloproteinase inhibitor on tumor cell growth and attachment.

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Figure 19 shows the effect of recombinant human metalloproteinase inhibitor on the invasion by tumor cells of a smooth muscle cell layer.

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Numerous aspects and advantages of the invention will be apparent to those skilled in the art upon consideration of the following detailed description which provides illustrations of the practice of the invention in its presently preferred embodiments.

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Detailed Description of the Invention

According to the present invention, a novel protein metalloproteinase inhibitor (MI) and DNA sequences coding for all or part of such MI are provided. Such sequences include: the incorporation of codons "preferred" for expression by selected nonmammalian hosts; the provision of sites for cleavage by restriction endonuclease enzymes; and the provision of additional initial, terminal or intermediate DNA sequences which facilitate construction of readily expressed vectors. The present invention also provides DNA sequences coding for polypeptide analogs or derivatives of MI which differ from naturally-occurring forms in terms of the identity or location of one or more amino acid residues (i.e., deletion analogs containing less than all of the residues specified for MI; substitution analogs, wherein one or more residues specified are replaced by other residues; and addition analogs wherein one or more amino acid residues is added to a terminal or medial portion of the polypeptide) and which share some or all the properties of naturally-occurring forms.

Novel DNA sequences of the invention include sequences useful in securing expression in procaryotic or eucaryotic host cells of polypeptide products having at least a part of the primary structural conformation and one or more of the biological properties of naturally-occurring MI. DNA sequences of the invention specifically comprise: (a) the DNA sequence set forth in Figure 1 or Figure 2 or their complementary strands; (b) a DNA sequence which hybridizes (under hybridization conditions disclosed in Example 3) or more stringent conditions to the DNA sequence in Figure 1 or Figure 2 or to fragments thereof; and (c) a DNA sequence which, but for the degeneracy of the genetic code, would

hybridize to the DNA sequence in Figure 1 or Figure 2. Specifically comprehended in parts (b) and (c) are genomic DNA sequences encoding allelic variant forms of MI and/or encoding MI from other mammalian species, and
5 manufactured DNA sequences encoding MI, fragments of MI, and analogs of MI which DNA sequences may incorporate codons facilitating transcription and translation of messenger RNA in microbial hosts. Such manufactured sequences may readily be constructed according to the
10 methods of Alton et al., PCT published application WO 83/04053.

According to another aspect of the present invention, the DNA sequences described herein which encode MI polypeptides are valuable for the information
15 which they provide concerning the amino acid sequence of the mammalian protein which have heretofore been unavailable. The DNA sequences are also valuable as products useful in effecting the large scale synthesis of MI by a variety of recombinant techniques. Put another
20 way, DNA sequences provided by the invention are useful in generating new and useful viral and circular plasmid DNA vectors, new and useful transformed and transfected procaryotic and eucaryotic host cells (including bacterial and yeast cells and mammalian cells grown in
25 culture), and new and useful methods for cultured growth of such host cells capable of expression of MI and its related products.

DNA sequences of the invention are also suitable materials for use as labeled probes in isolating
30 human genomic DNA encoding MI and related proteins as well as cDNA and genomic DNA sequences of other mammalian species. DNA sequences may also be useful in various alternative methods of protein synthesis (e.g., in insect cells) or in genetic therapy in humans and other
35 mammals. DNA sequences of the invention are expected to be useful in developing transgenic mammalian species

which may serve as eucaryotic "hosts" for production of MI and MI products in quantity. See, generally, Palmiter et al., Science 222, 809-814 (1983).

The present invention provides purified and
5 isolated polypeptide products having part or all of the primary structural conformation (i.e., continuous sequence of amino acid residues) and one or more of the biological properties (e.g., immunological properties and in vitro biological activity) and physical
10 properties (e.g., molecular weight) of naturally-occurring MI including allelic variants thereof. The term "purified and isolated" as used herein means substantially homogeneous or purified to apparent homogeneity (e.g., one band by SDS-PAGE). These
15 polypeptides are also characterized by being the natural purified product, or the product of chemical synthetic procedures or of procaryotic or eucaryotic host expression (e.g., by bacterial, yeast, higher plant, insect and mammalian cells in culture) of exogenous DNA
20 sequences obtained by genomic or cDNA cloning or by gene synthesis. The products of expression in typical yeast (e.g., Saccharomyces cerevisiae) or procaryote (e.g., E. coli) host cells are free of association with any mammalian proteins. The products of expression in
25 vertebrate (e.g., non-human mammalian (e.g. COS or CHO) and avian) cells are free of association with any human proteins. Depending upon the host employed, polypeptides of the invention may be glycosylated with mammalian or other eucaryotic carbohydrates or may be
30 non-glycosylated. Polypeptides of the invention may also include an initial methionine amino acid residue (at position -1).

In addition to naturally-occurring allelic forms of MI, the present invention also embraces other MI
35 products such as polypeptide analogs of MI and fragments of MI. Following the procedures of the above-noted

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published application by Alton et al. (WO 83/04053), one can readily design and manufacture genes coding for microbial expression of polypeptides having primary conformations which differ from that herein specified for
5 in terms of the identity or location of one or more residues (e.g., substitutions, terminal and intermediate additions and deletions). Alternately, modifications of cDNA and genomic genes may be readily accomplished by well-known site-directed mutagenesis techniques and
10 employed to generate analogs and derivatives of MI. Such products would share at least one of the biological properties of MI but may differ in others. As examples, projected products of the invention include those which are foreshortened by e.g., deletions; or those which are
15 more stable to hydrolysis (and, therefore, may have more pronounced or longer lasting effects than naturally-occurring); or which have been altered to delete one or more potential sites for O-glycosylation (which may result in higher activities for yeast-produced products);
20 or which have one or more cysteine residues deleted or replaced by, e.g., alanine or serine residues and are potentially more easily isolated in active form from microbial systems; or which have one or more tyrosine residues replaced by phenylalanine and bind more or less
25 readily to target proteins or to receptors on target cells. Also comprehended are polypeptide fragments duplicating only a part of the continuous amino acid sequence or secondary conformations within MI, which fragments may possess one activity of MI (e.g., receptor
30 binding) and not others (e.g., metalloproteinase inhibiting activity). It is noteworthy that activity is not necessary for any one or more of the products of the invention to have therapeutic utility [see, Weiland et al., Blut 44, 173-175 (1982)] or utility in other
35 contexts, such as in assays of MI antagonism. Competitive antagonists may be quite useful in, for example, cases of overproduction of MI.

Of applicability to MI fragments and polypeptide analogs of the invention are reports of the immunological activity of synthetic peptides which substantially duplicate the amino acid sequence extant
5 in naturally-occurring proteins, glycoproteins and nucleoproteins. More specifically, relatively low molecular weight polypeptides have been shown to participate in immune reactions which are similar in duration and extent to the immune reactions of
10 physiologically significant proteins such as viral antigens, polypeptide hormones, and the like. Included among the immune reactions of such polypeptides is the provocation of the formation of specific antibodies in immunologically active animals. See, e.g., Lerner
15 et al., Cell 23, 309-310 (1981); Ross et al., Nature 294, 654-656 (1981); Walter et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 77, 5197-5200 (1980); Lerner et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, 78 3403-3407 (1981); Walter et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 78, 4882-4886 (1981);
20 Wong et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, 79 5322-5326 (1982); Baron et al., Cell 28, 395-404 (1982); Dressman et al., Nature 295, 185-160 (1982); and Lerner, Scientific American 248, 66-74 (1983). See, also, Kaiser et al. [Science 223, 249-255 (1984)] relating to
25 biological and immunological activities of synthetic peptides which approximately share secondary structures of peptide hormones but may not share their primary structural conformation.

The present invention also includes that class
30 of polypeptides coded for by portions of the DNA complementary to the protein-coding strand of the human cDNA or genomic DNA sequences of MI i.e., "complementary inverted proteins" as described by Tramontano et al. [Nucleic Acid Res. 12, 5049-5059 (1984)].

35 Also comprehended by the invention are pharmaceutical compositions comprising effective amounts

of polypeptide products of the invention together with suitable diluents, preservatives, solubilizers, emulsifiers, adjuvants and/or carriers useful in MI therapy. Such compositions include diluents of various
5 buffer content (e.g., Tris-HCl, acetate, phosphate), pH and ionic strength; additives such as detergents and solubilizing agents (e.g., Tween 80, Polysorbate 80), anti-oxidants (e.g., ascorbic acid, sodium metabisulfite), preservatives (e.g., Thimersol, benzyl
10 alcohol) and bulking substances (e.g., lactose, mannitol); covalent attachment of polymers such as polyethylene glycol to the protein (see for example U.S. patent 4,179,337 hereby incorporated by reference); incorporation of the material into particulate
15 preparations of polymeric compounds such as polylactic acid, polyglycolic acid, etc. or into liposomes. Such compositions will influence the physical state, stability, rate of in vivo release, and rate of in vivo clearance of MI.

20 The invention also comprises compositions including an additional metalloproteinase inhibitor such as TIMP or low molecular weight chemical inhibitors. It also comprises compositions including additional agents influencing progression of a disease state, e.g.,
25 laminin- and/or fibronectin-derived peptides which like MI can impede cancer metastasis.

Polypeptide products of the invention may be "labeled" by association with a detectable marker substance (e.g., radiolabeled with ^{125}I) to provide
30 reagents useful in detection and quantification of MI in solid tissue and fluid samples such as blood or urine. Nucleic acid products of the invention may also be labeled with detectable markers (such as radiolabels and non-isotopic labels such as biotin) and employed in
35 hybridization processes to locate the human MI gene position and/or the position of any related gene family

in a chromosomal map. They may also be used for identifying human MI gene disorders at the DNA level and used as gene markers for identifying neighboring genes and their disorders.

5 MI when used in pharmacological formulation modifies the pathogenesis and provides a beneficial therapy for diseases of connective tissues characterized by matrix degradation. Also, metalloproteinase inhibitor is useful in the treatment of any disorder where
10 excessive matrix loss is caused by metalloproteinase activity, and in the promotion of wound healing following surgery or other wound situations.

 Polypeptide products of the present invention are useful, alone or in combination with other drugs, in
15 the treatment of various disorders such as dystrophic epidermolysis bullosa where the disease is linked to the overproduction of collagenase [Bauer et al., J. Exp. Med. 148, 1378-1387 (1978)]. The products of the present invention are also useful in the treatment
20 of rheumatoid arthritis. Evanson et al. [J. Clin. Invest. 47, 2639-2651 (1968)] noted that large amounts of collagenase are produced, in culture, by excised rheumatoid synovial tissue; this led to immunolocalization studies, by Woolley et al. [Arthritis and Rheumatism 20, 1231-1239 (1977)] with monospecific
25 antibodies directed against human rheumatoid synovial collagenase which detected high levels of immunoreactive collagenase at the sites of joint erosion (cartilage-pannus junctions) but not in the cartilage of associated
30 chondrocytes, and not in the synovium at sites remote from the resorbing front. Collagenases have also been demonstrated using many other different preparations derived from human rheumatoid joints and using tissues characterized by other types of arthritis such as
35 osteoarthritis, Reiter's syndrome, pseudogout, juvenile rheumatoid arthritis, and scleroderma.

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In periodontal disease affecting the tooth supporting apparatus, elevation of collagenolytic enzymes is evident, and destruction of collagen and connective tissue [see V.-J. Uitto, pp. 211-223 in Proteinases in
5 Inflammation and Tumor Invasion, H. Tschesche, ed., Walter de Gruyter & Co., Berlin, N.Y. (1988)].

Collagenases have been implicated in ulceration including corneal, epidermal, or gastric ulceration [Brown et al., American J. of Ophthalmology
10 72, 1139-1142 (1971)] and, indeed, metalloproteinase inhibitors are used in the treatment of corneal ulceration [Slansky et al., Annals of Ophthalmology 2, 488-491 (1970)].

In the field of tumor invasion and metastasis,
15 the metastatic potential of some particular tumors correlates with the increased ability to synthesize and secrete collagenases [Liotta et al., Nature 284, 67-68 (1980)], and with the inability to synthesize and secrete significant amounts of a metalloproteinase inhibitor
20 [Hicks et al., Int. J. Cancer 33, 835-844 (1984)]. These processes are related to the passage of tumor cells through connective tissue layers (basement membrane) from tissue sites to the circulation and vice-versa, which could be retarded by MI. MI similarly has therapeutic
25 application in inhibiting tumor cell dissemination during removal of primary tumors, during chemotherapy and radiation therapy, during harvesting of contaminated bone marrow, and during shunting of carcinomatous ascites.

A limiting factor in the use of bone marrow
30 transplantation for many advanced cancers with bone marrow involvement is the absence of adequate purging techniques. For example, metastatic interstitial pneumonitis following infusion of improperly purged bone marrow cells has been noted [Glorieux et al., Cancer 58,
35 2136-2139 (1986); Graeve et al., Cancer 62, 2125-2127 (1988)]. MI administered during infusion of unpurged

bone marrow cells will alleviate the need for developing expensive purging techniques.

Diagnostically, correlation between absence of MI production in a tumor specimen and its metastatic potential is useful as a prognostic indicator as well as an indicator for possible prevention therapy.

Tumors may also become more or less encapsulated or fibrotic due to increased collagen deposition (or inhibition of breakdown) by both cancer cells and/or surrounding normal cells. Increased encapsulation promoted by MI aids in clean tumor excision.

Other pathological conditions in which excessive collagen degradation may play a role and thus where MI can be applied, include emphysema, Paget's disease of bone, osteoporosis, scleroderma, pressure atrophy of bone or tissues as in bedsores, cholesteatoma, and abnormal wound healing. MI can additionally be applied as an adjunct to other wound healing promoters, e.g., to modulate the turnover of collagen during the healing process.

MI also plays a role in the hematopoietic processes based on its erythroid potentiating activity (i.e., stimulation of differentiation of early erythroid progenitors), and thus MI is useful in the treatment of various anemias.

In addition MI has application in the treatment of immunological disorders such as autoimmune diseases (e.g., rheumatoid arthritis, multiple sclerosis) based upon its ability to suppress B-cell differentiation as determined by the method of Pisko et al. [J. Immunol. 136, 2141-2150 (1986)].

Based on its ability to inhibit connective tissue degradation and to inhibit proliferation of capillary endothelial cells, MI and/or TIMP has application in cases where inhibition of angiogenesis is useful, e.g., in preventing or retarding tumor development.

The subject invention also relates to antibodies specifically binding metalloproteinase inhibitor. Example 6 below describes the production of polyclonal antibodies. A further embodiment of the invention is monoclonal antibodies specifically binding MI. In contrast to conventional antibody (polyclonal) preparations which typically include different antibodies directed against different determinants (epitopes), each monoclonal antibody is directed against a single determinant on the antigen. Monoclonal antibodies are useful to improve the selectivity and specificity of diagnostic and analytical assay methods using antigen-antibody binding. A second advantage of monoclonal antibodies is that they are synthesized by the hybridoma culture, uncontaminated by other immunoglobulins. Monoclonal antibodies may be prepared from supernatants of cultured hybridoma cells or from ascites induced by intra-peritoneal inoculation of hybridoma cells into mice. The hybridoma technique described originally by Köhler and Milstein [Eur. J. Immunol. 6, 511-519 (1976)] has been widely applied to produce hybrid cell lines that secrete high levels of monoclonal antibodies against many specific antigens.

The following examples are offered to more fully illustrate the invention, but are not to be construed as limiting the scope thereof.

EXAMPLE 1

Purification/Characterization of Metalloproteinase Inhibitors From Bovine Aortic Endothelial Cell Conditioned Medium.

1. Conditioned medium.

Bovine aortic endothelial cells (cell line NCACL₂; De Clerck et al., Cancer Research, supra) were

cultured in Eagle's Minimum Essential Medium (MEM) containing fetal bovine serum (2%, v/v) supplemented with MITO+ serum extender (2%, v/v; Collaborative Research, Inc., Bedford, MA), penicillin (100 U/ml) and streptomycin (100 µg/ml). Cells between passage 10 and 20 were grown in 800 cm² roller bottles (Costar). For conditioning, cultures at 80-90% confluence were washed 3 times with serum-free medium over 4 to 5 h and then incubated in the presence of fresh serum-free medium for 48 h. The medium was collected, centrifuged at 5,000 x g for 10 min at 4°C and kept at 4°C after addition of sodium azide (0.02%, w/v). After the conditioning, cells were trypsinized, diluted 1:4 with medium, and grown to 80% confluence for reconditioning.

2. Inhibition assays.

Purification work was monitored by inhibitory activity measured using a radiolabeled collagen film assay as described by Johnson-Wint [Anal. Biochem. 104, 175-181 (1980)]. The substrate used was ¹⁴C-acetylated rat skin collagen (about 300 cpm/µg) which was plated in a 96-well microtiter plate at 20 µl per well (about 6,000 cpm/well). The collagenase source was serum-free conditioned medium from 12-O-tetradecanoylphorbol-13-acetate (TPA)-treated rabbit synovial fibroblasts with a collagenase activity of approximately 8 units/ml (1 unit is the amount of enzyme that degrades 1 µg of collagen per min at 37°C). Proenzyme was activated with trypsin (10 µg/ml) for 30 min at 22°C and this was followed by inactivation of trypsin with a five-fold weight excess of soybean trypsin inhibitor. Various amounts of samples to be tested were incubated with the activated enzyme (40 mU) in a final volume of 200 µl also including Tris-HCl (50 mM) and CaCl₂ (10 mM) with pH of 7.5. These mixtures were then added to individual wells containing [¹⁴C]collagen. After incubation at 37°C for 3 h, supernatants were removed and counted in a beta

scintillation counter. Percent inhibition was calculated by comparing the radioactivity released for cases containing samples tested with the radioactivity released for the case containing collagenase alone.

5 Background cpm values (buffer alone cases) were subtracted from all cpm values. In the absence of inhibitor, 60 to 70% of the total radiolabeled substrate was degraded. One unit of inhibitor is defined as the amount that inhibits two units of collagenase by 50%, as
10 determined from dose-inhibition curves.

For antigelatinase activity assays, ^{14}C -labeled collagen was heat-denatured at 60°C for 20 min and assay was performed in test tubes [Murphy et al., Biochem. J. 192, 517-525 (1980)]. Anti type IV
15 collagenase activity was determined as described (De Clerck et al., Cancer Res., supra; and De Clerck, Arch. Biochem. Biophys., supra) using [^{14}C]proline-labeled type IV collagen extracted from the mouse Englebreth-Holm-Swarm tumor.

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3. Purification.

All purification work was done at 4°C unless otherwise indicated.

25 a. Concentrating.

Twenty liters of medium was concentrated using a Millipore Pellicon tangential flow ultrafiltration apparatus with a 10,000 molecular weight cutoff polysulfone membrane cassette (5 ft² total membrane
30 area), to a volume of 450 ml. The sample was then further concentrated, to 64 ml, using an Amicon TCF 10 tangential flow ultrafiltration unit with an Amicon YM10 membrane. The non-ionic detergent Brij-35 was then added from a 10% (w/v) stock, to
35 give a final concentration of 0.05% (w/v), and the sample was dialyzed against TNC/Brij-35 buffer

[50 mM Tris-HCl, 200 mM NaCl, 0.05% (w/v) Brij-35, 10 mM CaCl₂, pH 7.5].

b. Gel filtration.

5 The dialyzed sample (60 ml) was divided into
three 20 ml portions, each of which was applied to a
Sephadex G-100 gel filtration column (5 x 91 cm)
equilibrated with TNC/Brij-35 buffer at 4°C. Flow
rate was 60 ml/h and fractions of 13 ml were
10 collected. For each column run, a chromatographic
profile (absorbance at 280 nm and metalloproteinase
inhibitor activity) essentially like that described
in De Clerck et al., Cancer Research, supra, was
obtained, with two peaks of inhibitor activity
15 corresponding to apparent molecular weights of
70,000-75,000 and 30,000-35,000. The active
fractions from each of the gel filtration column
runs were pooled to yield peak I material (higher
molecular weight) and peak II material (lower
20 molecular weight).

c. Peak I purification.

1. Anion exchange.

25 The peak I material from gel filtration (312
ml; 3b above) was dialyzed against 20 mM
Tris-HCl, 1 mM CaCl₂, 0.05% (w/v) Brij-35, pH
7.5 and applied in two separate chromatographic
runs to a Mono Q anion exchange column
30 (Pharmacia; 1 ml) equilibrated in the same
buffer. A gradient from 0 to 0.5 M NaCl in the
same buffer (total gradient volume of 60 ml) was
then applied for elution of bound material.
Chromatography was done at room temperature.
35 Flow rate was 1 ml/min and fraction size 1 ml.
Figure 3 represents the elution profiles

obtained. Activity represents collagenase inhibition measured as described in section 2 above, using aliquots (15 μ l) from the indicated fractions. Fractions collected during sample application are not shown; no inhibitor activity was present in these fractions.

2. Chromatofocusing.

The fractions from the Mono Q column runs that contained inhibitor activity were combined and the pool (12 ml) was dialyzed against 25 mM bis Tris-HCl, 1 mM CaCl_2 , 0.05% (w/v) Brij-35, pH 7.4 and applied to a Mono P chromatofocusing column (Pharmacia; 4 ml) equilibrated in the same buffer, at room temperature. No inhibitor activity was present in fractions collected during sample application. Elution of bound material was accomplished with a pH gradient generated by applying a solution of polybuffer 74 (Pharmacia) diluted ten-fold and adjusted to pH 4 with HCl. Fractions of 1 ml were collected at a flow rate of 0.5 ml/min, immediately brought to 50 mM in Tris-HCl by addition of 50 μ l of 1 M Tris-HCl, pH 7.5, and further titrated to pH 7.5 by addition of 2 M Tris base. The elution profile is shown in Figure 4. Aliquots (5 μ l) from the indicated fractions were measured for inhibitor activity as described in section 2 above. There is a peak of inhibitor activity eluting at about pH 5.5 (fractions 21-27), plus activity eluting later (fractions 30-45). These latter fractions were pooled, dialyzed against the Mono P starting buffer, and rechromatographed on the Mono P column as for the original sample. Recovered activity was redistributed between an earlier-eluting peak

(about pH 5.5) and later-eluting region, with the early peak representing about one-third of the recovered activity. The later-eluting material from this second Mono P run was chromatographed again, with similar redistribution of the activity. The early-eluting fractions (pH 5.5 peak) from all three Mono P column runs were combined.

3. Gel filtration.

The combined pool from the Mono P column runs (15 ml) was concentrated to 3 ml using Amicon Centricon 10 units centrifuged at 5000 x g in a fixed-angle rotor. The concentrated sample was then applied to a Sephadex G-100 gel filtration column (1.5 x 94 cm) equilibrated with 50 mM Tris-HCl, 200 mM NaCl, 10 mM CaCl₂, pH 7.5. Fractions of 2.1 ml were collected, at a flow rate of 5 ml/h. A single peak of inhibitor activity was recovered, eluting with an apparent molecular weight of 24,000 relative to molecular weight markers used for column calibration (myoglobin, M_r of 17,000; ovalbumin, M_r of 44,000; gamma-globulin, M_r of 158,000), and having a specific activity of about 1,550 U/mg.

In the purification of peak I-derived inhibitor, it should be noted that the second Sephadex G-100 gel filtration step was useful because the material at this stage behaved with an apparent molecular weight of 24,000 rather than the 70,000-75,000 true for peak I activity on the initial Sephadex G-100 column.

A summary of the purification for peak I-derived material is shown in Table 1.

Table I. (See following page.) Purification of two metalloproteinase inhibitors from bovine aortic endothelial cells. After steps 1 and 2, the inhibitors were separately purified as indicated. Recovery and
5 degree of purification were calculated separately for the two inhibitor preparations, assigning values of 100% and 1, respectively, for each of the step 2 Sephadex G-100 peaks.

Footnotes:

10 ^aDetermined by the method of Bradford [Anal. Bioch. 72, 248-254 (1976)] using BSA as standard, except where indicated otherwise.

^bEstimate, based on intensity of silver-stained bands after SDS-PAGE.

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TABLE 1

Step	Volume (ml)	Total protein (mg) ^a	Total activity (units)	Specific activity (units/mg)	Recovery (percent)	Purification (fold)
1. Conditioned medium concentrated by ultrafiltration	64	127	907	7.2	-	-
2. Sephadex G-100						
2.1 Peak I	312	22.5	202	9	(100)	(1)
2.1.1 Mono Q	17	2.2	121	55	59	6
2.1.2 Mono P	3	-0.1 ^b	62	~620	30	86
2.1.3 Sephadex G-100	12	-0.02 ^b	31	~1,550	15	172
2.2 Peak II	470	16.4	695	42	(100)	(1)
2.2.1 Heparin- Sephadex	7.5	2.6	330	126	47	3
2.2.2 Mono Q	12	0.16	292	1,780	42	42

d. Peak II purification.

1. Heparin-Sepharose.

5 The peak II material from gel filtration
(465 ml; 3b above) was dialyzed against
25 mM sodium cacodylate-HCl, 10 mM CaCl₂, 0.05%
(w/v) Brij-35, pH 7.5 and chromatographed on a
heparin-Sepharose column equilibrated with this
10 buffer. After column washing, elution of bound
material was achieved with a linear gradient to
1 M NaCl in the same buffer [see De Clerck,
Arch. Biochem. Biophys. 265, 28-37 (1988)].

2. Anion exchange.

15 The active fractions from heparin-Sepharose
were combined (total volume 7.5 ml) and dialyzed
against 20 mM Tris-HCl, 1 mM CaCl₂, pH 7.5. The
material was then divided and applied in two
separate chromatographic runs to a Mono Q column
20 as described above (c.1). Eighty to 90% of the
recovered activity was present in fractions
collected during sample application (unbound),
and represented highly-purified peak II-derived
inhibitor material with a specific activity of
25 about 1,780 U/mg. The remainder of the activity
eluted early (about 0.065 M NaCl) in the salt
gradient.

30 A summary of the purification for
peak II-derived material is shown in Table 1.

4. Characterization of peak I-derived and peak II-
derived inhibitors.

35 a. SDS-PAGE was carried out by the method of
Laemmli [Nature 227, 680-685 (1970)]. Stacking gels

contained 4% (w/v) acrylamide and separating gels contained 12.5% (w/v) acrylamide. Samples were prepared under reducing or non-reducing conditions, that is, with or without 2-mercaptoethanol present in the treatment buffer. After electrophoresis, gels were subjected to silver-staining [Morrissey, Anal. Biochem. 117, 307-310 (1981)] or immunoblotting [Burnette, Anal. Biochem. 112, 195-203 (1981)].

1. Peak I-derived inhibitor.

The active fractions from the Sephadex G-100 column (c.3 above) all contained a fairly sharp major band evident upon SDS-PAGE with silver-staining, migrating with apparent molecular weight of 24,000-28,000 (reduced) and 19,000-22,000 (unreduced). This band was also evident in active fractions from the step that preceded (c.2 above; Mono P). Such co-elution of activity and material banding at this position is consistent with the conclusion that the band represents active protein. This band can be seen in Figure 5A, lanes 1 and 2. For these gels, 100 μ l of the final gel filtration pool (c.3 above; Table 1, step 2.1.3) was loaded; lane 1, reduced and lane 2, unreduced. Note that the difference in migration for the reduced and unreduced material probably reflects the presence of intrachain disulfide bonds in the unreduced case.

Figure 5C, lane 1 shows the result of SDS-PAGE with immunoblotting for a similar sample (250 mU; unreduced). The primary antibody in the immunoblotting was a rabbit polyclonal antibody against TIMP from bovine vascular smooth muscle cells (De Clerck, Arch. Biochem. Biophys., supra) used at 1:500

dilution. (The secondary antibody used for detection was a goat anti-rabbit antibody conjugated with horseradish peroxidase.) No bands were visualized with the use of this primary antibody. Note that Figure 5C, lane 3 shows that TIMP from bovine vascular smooth muscle cells (160 mU; unreduced) is visualized with the use of this antibody.

2. Peak II-derived inhibitor.

SDS-PAGE with silver-staining is shown in Figure 5A, lanes 3 (reduced) and 4 (unreduced) for the unbound material from Mono Q chromatography (d.2 above; Table 1, step 2.2.2; 75 μ l loaded). The staining material migrates over a fairly broad region representing a molecular weight range of 30,000-34,000 (reduced) and 27,000-31,000 (unreduced).

Figure 5C, lane 2 shows that the peak II-derived inhibitor (240 mU loaded; unreduced) is visualized by SDS-PAGE with immunoblotting using the antibody against bovine vascular smooth muscle cell TIMP.

b. SDS-gelatin PAGE.

The major bands on SDS-PAGE, as visualized by silver-staining, are also visualized, at the same molecular weight positions, with SDS-gelatin polyacrylamide gels, which identify proteins with inhibitory activity toward gelatinolytic enzymes [see Herron et al., J. Biol. Chem. 261, 2814-2818 (1986); De Clerck et al., Cancer Research, *supra*; and De Clerck, Arch. Biochem. Biophys., *supra*]. In this method, samples are subjected to SDS-PAGE, using gels with 10% (w/v) acrylamide and 0.1% (w/v) gelatin. The gels are then incubated in 2.5% (w/v) Triton

X-100 for 1 h with two changes, to remove SDS, incubated for 3 h at 37°C in 10 ml of p-aminophenylmercuric acetate (APMA)-activated conditioned medium from rabbit synovial fibroblasts to degrade gelatin, and then incubated overnight in 50 mM Tris-HCl, 10 mM CaCl₂, pH 7.5. The gels are then stained with Coomassie blue and destained with methanol:acetic acid:water (50:10:40). Bands having collagenase/gelatinase inhibitory activity show up as dark (blue) zones representing undegraded gelatin. The results of applying this method are shown in Figure 5B for the following samples (all unreduced): lane 1, partially-purified peak I-derived inhibitor (50 mU loaded); lane 2, peak II-derived inhibitor (240 mU loaded); lane 3, bovine vascular smooth muscle cell TIMP (160 mU loaded). As mentioned, dark zones represent proteins with inhibitory activity toward gelatinolytic enzymes. The results further support the conclusion that the major silver-stained bands in the purified preparations represent the proteins with metalloproteinase inhibitor activity.

c. SDS-gelatin PAGE with proteinase samples.

To further test the preparations for inhibitory activity toward gelatinases, trypsin, or plasmin, samples containing the proteinases were electrophoresed on SDS-gelatin gels (supra). The gels were then incubated in 2.5% (w/v) Triton X-100 for 1 h with two changes, to remove SDS, and then incubated overnight in 50 mM Tris-HCl, 10 mM CaCl₂, pH 7.5 with or without the preparation being tested for inhibitory activity, stained with Coomassie blue, and destained (as in SDS-gelatin PAGE methods referred to, supra). See Figure 6. For the lanes 1, 2 and 3 in this figure, electrophoresed samples were (respectively) APMA-activated conditioned medium from

TPA-treated rabbit synovial fibroblasts (1.2 mU of collagenase activity; see section 2 of this Example), bovine trypsin (0.01 μ g), and human plasmin (0.03 μ g). In the case marked "MI", the overnight incubation of the gel included peak I-derived inhibitor (0.2 U/ml). Clear zones are indicative of gelatinolytic activity of the electrophoresed proteinase samples. Note by comparison to the "control" cases that "MI" inhibits the collagenases (clear zones at M_r about 68,000 and 92,000 in "control" lane 1), but not trypsin or plasmin (which are not metalloproteinases). Similarly, it can be seen in Figure 6 that the chelator "EDTA" (included at 20 mM) inhibited collagenases but not trypsin or plasmin, as expected.

d. Inhibition of various collagenases and metalloproteinases.

Table 2 shows that peak I-derived material inhibited type I collagenase, gelatinase(s), and type IV collagenase, but did not inhibit bacterial collagenase.

TABLE 2

Effect of peak I-derived inhibitor
on various collagenases

5	Enzyme	Substrate	Peak I-derived inhibitor amount (mU)	Inhibition (%)
10	Type I collagenase ^a	¹⁴ C-labeled type I collagen ^d	50	100
	Gelatinase ^a	¹⁴ C-labeled type I collagen, heat denatured ^e	50	90
15	Bacterial collagenase ^b	¹⁴ C-labeled type I collagen ^d	200	0
	Type IV collagenase ^c	¹⁴ C-labeled type IV collagen ^d	200	66
20	^a Trypsin-activated conditioned medium from TPA-treated rabbit synovial fibroblasts (40 mU; see Example 1, section 2).			
	^b Form III from <u>Clostridium histolyticum</u> (34 mU) (Advance Biofacture Corp., Lynbrook, NJ).			
25	^c Trypsin-activated conditioned medium from mouse reticulum cell sarcoma cell line (50 μ l of 104-fold concentrated medium; see De Clerck, Arch. Biochem. Biophys., supra).			
	^d See Example 1, section 2.			
	^e Heat-denatured at 60°C for 20 min.			
30	e. SDS-PAGE of ¹⁴ C-labeled collagen degradation products generated by type I (classical) collagenase in the absence and presence of the peak I-derived inhibitor is shown in Figure 7. ¹⁴ C-Labeled type I collagen (30,000 cpm) was incubated under the conditions described for inhibition assays in Example 1, section 2, with various additions, at 22°C			
35				

for 16 h. EDTA (20 mM) was then added to block metalloproteinase reactions, and samples were subjected to SDS-PAGE using a gradient gel (5-15% acrylamide). The gel was incubated in Autofluor (National Diagnostics, Manville, NJ), dried and subjected to autoradiography. For Figure 7: lane 1, no additions; lane 2, APMA-activated conditioned medium from TPA-treated rabbit synovial fibroblasts (5 μ l of medium containing 40 mU of collagenase activity prepared as described in Example 1, section 2); lane 3, as lane 2, plus partially-purified peak I-derived inhibitor (50 mU). In the Figure, TC^a and TC^b represent the 3/4-length and 1/4-length fragments derived from single specific cleavage of the full-length α collagen polypeptide chains [Gross et al., Biochemistry 54, 1197-1204 (1965)], and β represents dimeric α chains. The results indicate that the inhibitory activity of peak I-derived inhibitor can be directed against the single peptide bond cleavage located one quarter of the distance from the COOH-terminus and characteristic of mammalian collagenase.

f. The purified peak I-derived and peak II-derived materials have been characterized with regard to susceptibilities to heat, acid, reduction-alkylation, and trypsin treatment. The results are shown in Table 3.

TABLE 3

Stability of peak I-derived and peak II-derived inhibitors. Inhibitor samples (2 U/ml) were treated as indicated prior to being tested for residual anticollagenase activity determined from dose-inhibition curves.

10	Treatment	Conditions	Loss of inhibitory activity (%)	
			Peak I-derived inhibitor	Peak II-derived inhibitor
15	(A) Heat ^a	37°C	0	11
		50°C	0	11
		80°C	9	30
		100°C	59	44
20	(B) Trypsin ^b	1:1	10	0
		10:1	28	21
		50:1	100	100
20	(C) Acid	pH 4.5, 22°C, 1 h	0	0
	(D) Reduction-alkylation ^c		100	100

25 ^aInhibitor samples were incubated at indicated temperatures for 1 h. Loss of inhibitory activity was calculated in comparison with an untreated sample.

30 ^bSamples were incubated at indicated trypsin:inhibitor ratios (w:w) for 1 h at 37°C. The reaction was then blocked with five-fold weight excess of soybean trypsin inhibitor. Loss of activity was determined in comparison with a sample incubated at 37°C for 1 h in the presence of a trypsin-soybean trypsin inhibitor mixture.

35 ^cSamples were reduced by the addition of 2-mercaptoethanol (20 mM) for 16 h at 4°C and alkylated with iodoacetamide (20 mM) at 30°C for 1 h. Loss of activity was determined by comparison with samples incubated at the same temperatures. 2-Mercaptoethanol and iodoacetamide did not affect collagenase activity.

EXAMPLE 2

Amino-Terminal Amino Acid Sequence Analysis of Peak I-Derived Inhibitor and Peak II-Derived Inhibitor; Amino
5 Acid Composition Analysis of Peak I-Derived Inhibitor.

Peak I-derived inhibitor (4.8 ml; Table 1, step 2.1.3) was concentrated and introduced into 50 mM ammonium bicarbonate, pH 7.8 using an Amicon
10 Centricon 10 ultrafiltration unit. The sample was spotted onto a glass fiber disc on a sequencer cartridge, which had been pre-cycled with polybrene. The glass fiber disc containing sample was dried under a stream of N₂. Amino-terminal amino acid sequence
15 analysis was performed according to published methods [Hewick et al., J. Biol. Chem. 256, 7990-7997 (1981)] with Applied Biosystems Model 477 protein sequencer using a standard program provided by Applied Biosystems (Foster City, CA). The released phenylthiohydantoin
20 (PTH)-amino acids were analyzed by a Model 120 on-line PTH-amino acid analyzer using a Brownlee reverse phase C-18 column. The chromatograms obtained were analyzed by a Model 900 data module. An initial yield of approximately 158 pmol was obtained with an average
25 repetitive yield of 94%. Amino acid assignments at 42 positions were made. In a repeat sequencing run, the assignments were completely identical to those of the first sequencing run except that three more amino acids (positions 43-45) were assigned. Table 4 shows the
30 assigned amino-terminal amino acid sequence.

TABLE 4

Amino-terminal sequence of bovine peak I-derived inhibitor

5
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13
(Cys)-Ser-(Cys)-Ser-Pro-Val-His-Pro-Gln-Gln-Ala-Phe-(Cys)-
14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26
10 Asn-Ala-Asp-Ile-Val-Ile-Arg-Ala-Lys-Ala-Val-Asn-Lys-
27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39
Lys-Glu-Val-Asp-Ser-Gly-Asn-Asp-Ile-Tyr-Gly-Asn-Pro-
15 40 41 42 43 44 45
Ile-Lys-Arg-Ile-Gln-Tyr-----

Residues 1, 3 and 13 were assigned as
20 cysteines since no other assignments could be made for
these cycles and cysteine is undetectable by the
sequencing methods used.

In order to compare sequence, a preparation of
purified peak II-derived inhibitor (2.25 ml; Table 1,
25 step 2.2.2; prepared as described for peak I-derived
inhibitor) was also subjected to amino-terminal sequence
analysis. The sequence shown in Table 5 was obtained.

30

35

TABLE 5

Amino-terminal sequence of bovine peak II-derived inhibitor

5
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13
(Cys)-Thr-(Cys)-Val-Pro-Pro-His-Pro-Gln-Thr-Ala-Phe-(Cys)-
14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26
10 Asn-Ser-Asp-Val-Val-Ile-Arg-Ala-Lys-Phe-Val-Gly-Thr-
27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39
Ala-Glu-Val-(Asn)-Glu-Thr-Ala-Leu-Leu-Tyr-Arg-Tyr-Leu-
15 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49
Ile-Lys-Met-[Leu]-Lys-Met-Pro-Ser-[Gly]-Phe---

The initial yield was approximately 280 pmol and the average repetitive yield was 92%. Residues 1, 3 and 13
20 were assigned as cysteines for the reasons described above. Residue 30 was also not recovered and was assigned as asparagine since the subsequent sequence (Asn-Glu-Thr...)

30 31 32
25 would be consistent with an Asn-linked glycosylation site. The assignments at positions 43 and 48 (in brackets) were made with less than full confidence.

Based on these various analyses (Examples 1 and 2), the peak II-derived material is almost certainly
30 bovine TIMP. Human TIMP is very well characterized and has been cloned (Docherty et al., Nature, supra; Carmichael et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, supra). Comparing the amino-terminal sequences of human TIMP and the peak II-derived material, the homology over the
35 first 29 residues is 93% and the homology over the first 49 residues is 80% (see Table 6). In addition the

isolated bovine peak II-derived material shares many of the biochemical properties of TIMP, i.e., behavior in various purification steps, mobility on SDS-PAGE, and recognition by antibody to bovine smooth muscle TIMP in
5 SDS-PAGE with immunoblotting (Example 1).

The peak I-derived material (MI) is clearly distinct from TIMP (Table 6) in amino acid sequence, but does have homology to TIMP. Homology over the first 29 residues is 65%, and homology over the first 45 residues
10 is 47%. The molecules have different chromatographic behaviors, different mobilities on SDS-PAGE, and antibody to bovine smooth muscle TIMP does not visualize the peak I-derived material in immunoblots after
SDS-PAGE (Example 1). This novel peak I-derived
15 inhibitor is designated metalloproteinase inhibitor (MI).

Over the first 45 residues, the peak I-derived and peak II-derived bovine inhibitors have 51% homology to each other.

20

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30

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TABLE 6

Comparison of the amino-terminal sequence of (1) human TIMP^a, (2) bovine peak II-derived inhibitor (TIMP)^b and (3) bovine peak I-derived inhibitor (MI)^c

		1	10	20
	1 HUMAN TIMP	C T C V P P H P Q T A F C N S D L V I R		
	2 BOVINE TIMP	C T C V P P H P Q T A F C N S D V V I R		
10	3 BOVINE MI	C S C S P V H P Q Q A F C N A D I V I R		
		21	30	40
	1 HUMAN TIMP	A K F V G T P E V N Q T T L Y Q R Y E I		
	2 BOVINE TIMP	A K F V G T A E V N E T A L L Y R Y L I		
15	3 BOVINE MI	A K A V N K K E V D S G N D I Y G N P I		
		41	49	
	1 HUMAN TIMP	K M T K M Y K G F		
	2 BOVINE TIMP	K M (L) K M P S (G) F ...		
20	3 BOVINE MI	K R I Q Y		

^a From Docherty et al., Nature, supra; and Carmichael et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, supra.

^{b,c} From sequence analyses described in Example 2.

25 The amino acid composition of the bovine peak I-derived inhibitor (MI) is shown in Table 7. A sample of peak I-derived inhibitor (1.2 ml; Table 1, step 2.1.3) was concentrated and introduced into 50 mM ammonium bicarbonate, pH 7.8 using an Amicon

30 Centricon 10 ultrafiltration unit. The sample was then dried and subjected to amino acid composition analysis by the method described by Lu et al. [J. Chromatog. 368, 215-231 (1986)]. This involved chromatographic analysis of phenylthiocarbamyl-amino acids generated after acid

35 hydrolysis (24 h) of the samples. Data from three separate chromatographic analyses were used to estimate average residues per molecule values. For each of these

analyses an amount of material derived from one-tenth of the starting sample was used. The value for total amino acids (178) used in calculating residues per molecule was taken from the gene-encoded sequence for the mature
5 bovine MI (Example 3, Figure 1).

TABLE 7

10 Amino acid composition analysis of bovine peak I-derived inhibitor (MI)

		Residues per molecule		
Amino acid		Average value	Integral value	"Actual" value ^C
15	Lys	15.5	16	17
	His	3.6	4	4
	Arg + Thr ^a	15.9	16	6+6=12
	Asx ¹	22.9	23	22
	Ser	10.9	11	10
20	Glx ¹	19.4	19	19
	Pro	8.1	8	12
	Gly	14.2	14	13
	Ala	15	15	16
	Val	9	9	8
25	$\frac{1}{2}$ -Cys	nd ^b		(12)
	Met	3.1	3	5
	Ile	14.6	15	19
	Leu	10.8	11	7
	Tyr	7.1	7	7
30	Phe	7.7	8	7
	Trp	nd ^b		(4)
		178	179	178+12+4=194

^a Arg and Thr were not separable by the method used.

35 ^b Not determined.

^c Values from gene-encoded sequence of mature bovine MI polypeptide; see Example 3, Figure 1.

EXAMPLE 3

Cloning of the Bovine and Human Metalloproteinase
Inhibitor Genes.

5

The amino-terminal amino acid sequence for the bovine metalloproteinase inhibitor was determined as described above and 3 probes were designed and manufactured on DNA synthesizers (Applied Biosystems models 380A and 380B) for hybridization to the sense strand of DNA (or to the mRNA). The first probe was designed as a long nondegenerate probe by the method of Lathe [J. Mol. Biol. 183, 1-12 (1985)] to recognize the region corresponding to amino acids 4 to 19 and is as follows:

5' GAT CAC AAT GTC AGC ATT GCA GAA GGC CTG CTG GGG ATG CAC AGG 3'

The second and third probes were designed as degenerate probes incorporating inosine bases at positions of 4-fold degeneracy. The second probe recognizes the region corresponding to amino acids 21 to 30 and is as follows:

5' GTC IAC (C)TC (C)TT (C)TT GTT IAC IGC (C)TT IGC 3'

The parentheses indicate the incorporation of two bases, leading to multiple oligonucleotides in the probe preparation. The third probe recognizes the region corresponding to amino acids 32 to 41 and is as follows:

5' CTT IAT IGG (G)TT ICC (G)TA IAT (G)TC (G)TT ICC 3'

A λ gt11 cDNA library, made with mRNA isolated from bovine aorta endothelial cells, was purchased from

CLONTECH Laboratories, Inc. (Palo Alto, CA).
Approximately 10^6 phage were plated onto eight
23 x 23 cm square plates with the host bacterial strain,
Y1090. Two lifts from each plate were made onto
5 GeneScreen Plus (Dupont) hybridization transfer
membranes. One set of membranes was hybridized with
 ^{32}P -phosphorylated probe 2 and the other set of
membranes was hybridized with ^{32}P -phosphorylated
probe 3. Hybridizations were done overnight in 6xSSC,
10 5x Denhardts, 0.5% (w/v) SDS, 50 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$ sheared and
denatured herring sperm DNA at 50-55°C. The filters
were washed in 6xSSC, 0.5% (w/v) SDS at approximately
55°C. After autoradiography, three clones were
identified which hybridized to both probes. These
15 clones were rescreened until isolated plaques were
obtained for each. Mini λ phage preps were made for
each of the three clones using the LambdaSorb Phage
Adsorbent from Promega. Restriction endonuclease
digests of the three clones using several restriction
20 enzymes indicated that all three clones were identical
and were obtained due to amplification of the cDNA
library by the supplier. By Southern blotting analysis,
the same restriction fragments were found to hybridize
not only to probes 2 and 3, but to probe 1 as well.
25 The restriction endonuclease analysis
indicated that the rightward EcoRI site had been
abolished during the cDNA cloning. Therefore, the cDNA-
containing fragment from the leftward EcoRI site to an
SstI site in $\lambda\text{gt}11$ approximately 1 kilobase (kb) from
30 the abolished EcoRI site was cloned into pUC 19 to
generate pUC BMI. Overlapping restriction fragments of
both orientations were subsequently cloned from pUC BMI
into M13 mp vectors to obtain the sequence of the gene
using the dideoxy method of Sanger et al. [Proc. Natl.
35 Acad. Sci. USA 74, 5463-5467 (1977)]. As shown in
Figure 1, the gene codes for a mature protein of
194 amino acids with a leader sequence of 26 amino

acids. The first 45 amino acids of the mature protein exactly match the amino-terminal sequence determined for the purified protein (Example 2). In addition, the amino acid composition as determined from the gene-
5 encoded sequence of the mature bovine MI polypeptide is in agreement with that obtained experimentally for the bovine peak I-derived inhibitor (see Example 2, Table 7), providing further evidence that the cloned gene corresponds to the purified MI polypeptide of
10 Example 1. The molecular weight of the mature bovine MI polypeptide chain, based on the gene-encoded sequence in Figure 1, is 21,693.

Four long oligonucleotide probes (51-mers), which exactly match the sequences of the antisense
15 strand of the bovine metalloproteinase inhibitor coding region, were manufactured on DNA synthesizers (Applied Biosystems models 380A and 380B) in order to screen human cDNA libraries for the human MI gene sequences. The 4 sequences were as follows:

20

probe 1

5' CGG GTC CTC GAT GTC CAG AAA CTC CTG CTT GGG GGG TGC TGC TCC GCG GTA 3'

probe 2

25 5' GAA CTT GGC CTG GTG TCC GTT GAT GTT CTT CTC CGT GAC CCA GTC CAT CCA 3'

probe 3

5' GCA CTC ACA GCC CAT CTG GTA CCT GTG GTT CAG GCT CTT CTT CTG GGT GGC 3'

30 probe 4

5' GGG GTT GCC GTA GAT GTC GTT GCC AGA GTC CAC CTC CTT CTT ATT GAC TGC 3'

A λ gt11 cDNA library made with mRNA isolated from human heart tissue (fetal aorta) was purchased from
35 CLONTECH Laboratories, Inc. Approximately 10^6 phage were plated onto eight 23 x 23 cm square plates with the

host bacterial strain, Y1090. Two lifts from each plate were made onto GeneScreen Plus hybridization transfer membranes. One set of membranes was hybridized with a mixture of ^{32}P -phosphorylated probes 1 and 2, and the
5 second set of membranes was hybridized with a mixture of ^{32}P -phosphorylated probes 3 and 4, using the hybridization and wash conditions described above. Three clones hybridized to both sets of probes and these clones were rescreened until isolated plaques were
10 obtained. Mini λ phage DNA preps were made as described above and restriction endonuclease digests were performed on the DNAs. The three clones were of similar but different lengths so one of the clones was subcloned from $\lambda\text{gt}11$ into M13 mp9 from EcoRI to EcoRI in both
15 orientations. This EcoRI fragment was subsequently cloned from M13 mp9 into pUC 19 to generate pUC HMI. The original clones in M13 mp9 and additional overlapping restriction fragments cloned from pUC HMI into M13 mp vectors in both orientations were sequenced
20 using the dideoxy method of Sanger (Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, supra). The sequence of the human metalloproteinase inhibitor gene is shown in Figure 2. It, like the bovine metalloproteinase inhibitor gene, codes for a protein of 194 amino acids with a leader
25 sequence of an additional 26 amino acids. The two genes code for different amino acids at 11 of the 194 residues corresponding to the mature protein. The molecular weight of the mature human MI polypeptide, based on the gene-encoded sequence in Figure 2, is 21,730.

30

EXAMPLE 4

Expression of Recombinant Human Metalloproteinase Inhibitor in E. coli.

35

The mature human metalloproteinase inhibitor protein was expressed in E. coli by utilizing an NcoI

site at amino acid 1 of the leader sequence, a BamHI site at amino acid 42 of the mature protein, and a StuI site 3 nucleotides downstream from the termination codon. The fragment from NcoI to StuI was first cloned
5 into an expression vector, pCFM 1156 pL, from NcoI to SstII (which had been blunted at the SstII site using the Klenow fragment of DNA polymerase I) to generate pll56 HMI1 (Figure 8). The plasmid pCFM 1156 pL can be derived from plasmid pCFM 836 (see U.S. Patent No.
10 4,710,473 hereby incorporated by reference), by destroying the two endogenous NdeI restriction sites by end filling with T4 polymerase enzyme followed by blunt end ligation, replacing the DNA sequence between the
15 unique AatII and ClaI restriction sites containing the synthetic pL promoter with a similar fragment obtained from pCFM 636 (see U.S. Patent No. 4,710,473) containing the pL promoter, and substituting the small DNA sequence between the unique ClaI and KpnI restriction sites with the following oligonucleotide:

T,0440
20 ClaI KpnI
5' CGATTTGATTCTAGAAGGAGGAATAACATATGGTTAACGCGTTGGAATTCGGTAC 3'
3' TAAACTAAGATCTTCCTCCTTATTGTATACCAATTGCGCAACCTTAAGC 5'

The pL promoter DNA sequence inserted is as follows:

T,0441
25 AatII
5' CTAATTCGCTCTCACCTACCAACAATGCCCCCTGCAAAAAATAAATTCATAT
3' TGCAGATTAAGGCGAGAGTGGATGGTTTGTACGGGGGGACGTTTTTTATTTAAGTATA
AAAAAACATACAGATAACCATCTGCGGTGATAAATTATCTCTGGCGGTGTTGACATAAA
TTTTTGTATGTCTATTGGTAGACGCCACTATTTAATAGAGACCGCCACAACCTGTATTT
30 TACCACTGGCGGTGATACTGAGCACAT 3'
ATGGTGACCGCCACTATGACTCGTGTAGC 5'

ClaI

A synthetic DNA fragment was constructed which contained a ribosome binding site, an initiation methionine codon,
35 and codons for the first 42 amino acids of the mature human MI (Figure 9). This fragment was first cloned

44

into M13 mp11 from XbaI to BamHI to confirm the sequence by the dideoxy method of Sanger (Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, supra). This XbaI to BamHI fragment was then cloned from M13 mp11 into p1156 HMI1 to generate p1156
5 HMI2 (Figure 8).

This plasmid was transformed into E. coli strain FM5 (ATCC deposit no. 53911) which contains a temperature-sensitive λ CI repressor on the chromosome. The plasmid contains the λ pL promoter/operator region and
10 has a temperature sensitive replicon. When E. coli strain FM5 harboring p1156 HMI2 is cultured at 28°C, the plasmid copy number is maintained at 10-20 copies/cell, and transcription from the λ pL promoter is regulated by a temperature-sensitive repressor. Growth at 42°C
15 results in an increased copy number and a release of repression at the λ pL promoter. Recombinant human metalloproteinase inhibitor begins to accumulate at elevated temperatures as a result of promoter activation and plasmid amplification. The λ pL promoter lies just
20 upstream from the ribosome binding site and the methionine initiation codon of human metalloproteinase inhibitor. The transcription terminator, t-oop, lies just downstream from the two translational stop codons near the 3' end of the gene. Strain FM5 harboring the
25 plasmid p1156 HMI2 was grown using the dual-feed media described by Tsai et al. [J. Indust. Microbiol. 2, 181-187 (1987)]. Induction was accomplished by a temperature shift to 42°C when the optical density at 600 nm (OD₆₀₀) had reached about 30. The final OD₆₀₀
30 reached approximately 60. Recombinant human MI was expressed up to a level of 15 mg/OD-liter. The human MI was evident after SDS-PAGE with Coomassie blue staining (load equivalent to 0.4 mg wet weight of cells; reduced) as a prominent band with M_r 24,000-28,000 which co-
35 migrated with the band for purified bovine MI (Example 1). Other E. coli host cells can be used for expression as will be apparent to those skilled in the art.

45

EXAMPLE 5

Purification of E. coli-Expressed Recombinant Human Metalloproteinase Inhibitor.

5

The human MI is expressed in E. coli in insoluble, inactive form (so-called inclusion bodies). Isolation of active MI requires procedures for solubilization, purification, folding, and oxidation
10 (disulfide formation) of the inclusion body MI. An example of such procedures is given below.

About 400 grams (wet weight) of cell paste of E. coli strain FM5 harboring plasmid p1156 HMI2, grown as indicated in Example 4, was suspended in 1.5 liters
15 of H₂O. The material was passed through a Manton-Gaulin homogenizer three times and then centrifuged for 45 min at about 4,000 x g at 4°C. The supernatant was poured off and discarded. The pellets were resuspended in 1.5 liters H₂O (4°C) and centrifuged as above. The
20 supernatant was poured off and discarded. The pellets were resuspended in 120 ml H₂O and then diluted ten-fold with 20 mM Tris-HCl, pH 9.5. The pH was adjusted to 11.5 (using 1 N NaOH), and the mixture was left on ice for 15 min, and then centrifuged for 30 min at 11,300 x
25 g at 4°C. The supernatant was diluted four-fold with 20 mM Tris-HCl, pH 9.5. The pH was adjusted to 10-10.5 (with 1 N NaOH) and the mixture was stirred overnight at room temperature.

The pH of the mixture was lowered to 8.5
30 (using 1 N HCl) and the mixture was then loaded onto a DEAE-Sepharose Fast Flow (Pharmacia) ion exchange column (150 ml column volume) equilibrated in 20 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.5. Bound material was eluted with a 2 liter gradient from 0 to 0.3 M NaCl in the Tris-HCl buffer.
35 Fractions of 12 ml were collected at a flow rate of 8 ml/min. Aliquots (25 µl) of collected fractions were

subjected to SDS-PAGE (15%, w/v, acrylamide; unreduced) with Coomassie blue staining. Fractions 38-54, which contained a fairly sharp band (M_r about 22,000-23,000) corresponding to the MI polypeptide, were pooled

- 5 (202 ml). Material thought to also represent the MI polypeptide, but having a slightly lower mobility and banding less sharply on SDS-PAGE, eluted later in the gradient and was not included in the pool.

- The pooled material from DEAE-Sepharose Fast
- 10 Flow was concentrated to 30 ml using an Amicon stirred cell (with YM5 membrane). The pH was adjusted to 5.4 (using 50% acetic acid) and the mixture was dialysed against 20 mM sodium acetate, pH 5.4. The material was then diluted with H₂O to a final volume of 45 ml and
- 15 applied to a CM-Sepharose Fast Flow (Pharmacia) ion exchange column (1 ml column volume) equilibrated in 20 mM sodium acetate, pH 5.4. Bound material was eluted using a 20 ml gradient from 0 to 0.4 M NaCl in the sodium acetate buffer. Fractions of 1 ml were collected
- 20 at a flow rate of 0.1 ml/min. Aliquots (10 μ l) of the fractions were analyzed by SDS-PAGE as above and those containing MI [fractions 11-18 (8 ml)] were pooled and then loaded directly onto a Sephacryl S-200 HR gel filtration column (300 ml column volume) equilibrated in
- 25 phosphate-buffered saline (PBS). Fractions of 4 ml were collected at a flow rate of 20 ml/h. Aliquots (20 μ l) of the fractions were again analyzed by SDS-PAGE as above. Fractions 54-60 contained MI; to maximize purity, only fractions 56-59 were pooled (16 ml).
- 30 Purity of MI in the pool, estimated by SDS-PAGE, was greater than 90% as judged by visual inspection of gels after SDS-PAGE with Coomassie blue staining. Total protein in the pool, measured by the method of Bradford (Anal. Biochem., supra) using BSA as standard, was about
- 35 8 mg. Inhibitory activity of this material was about 424 U/ml (specific activity about 865 U/mg) measured by

the type I collagenase inhibition assay described in Example 1, section 2. Inhibitory activity of E. coli-derived human MI was also demonstrated in several other ways (Example 11).

5 ~~A sample of the human MI preparation described~~
 (about 6.5 µg) was subjected to amino-terminal amino
Sub.K' acid sequencing through 18 cycles, using the methods
 described in Example 2. The initial yield was 135 pmol
 and the repetitive yield was 94%. The major sequence
10 obtained exactly matched that predicted from the
 nucleotide sequence for the mature human MI gene
 (Example 3; Figure 2).

 The material is purified to apparent
 homogeneity using methods such as that described in
15 Example 1 for bovine MI or other methods evident to
 those skilled in the art.

EXAMPLE 6

20 Generation of Rabbit Polyclonal Antisera to Human Metalloproteinase Inhibitor.

 Two types of preparation of metalloproteinase
 inhibitor were used for generation of rabbit polyclonal
25 antisera. The first (used for injections on days 1, 7
 and 21) was prepared as follows. About 14 g (wet
 weight) of cell paste from E. coli strain FM5 harboring
 plasmid p1156 HMI2 (Example 3) was suspended in 50 ml
 H₂O and passed twice through a French Press device. The
30 pellet fraction obtained by centrifugation was
 resuspended in a final volume of 10 ml containing sodium
 sarkosyl (2%, w/v), Tris-HCl (50 mM), dithiothreitol
 (50 mM) with pH of 8.5, and incubated at 50°C for 10-15
 min and room temperature for 2 h, for solubilization of
35 MI. After centrifugation of this mixture, a supernatant
 fraction (7.2 ml) containing MI was obtained and

subjected to gel filtration on a Sephacryl S-200 column (265 ml column volume) equilibrated in 20 mM Tris-HCl, 1% (w/v) sodium N-lauroyl sarcosine, pH 8. Fractions of 2.9 ml were collected at a flow rate of 14 ml/h.

5 Fractions 65-75 (31 ml) containing MI [as judged by SDS-PAGE with silver-staining; aliquots (0.5 μ l; reduced) of fractions were run on gels containing 12.5% (w/v) acrylamide], were pooled, dialyzed thoroughly against 20 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8, concentrated to 6.5 ml
10 using an Amicon stirred cell (with YM10 membrane), and filtered through a 0.45 μ filter. The MI concentration in this preparation was about 1 mg/ml. The second type of preparation (used for injections on days 35 and 56) was that of Example 4, with MI at a concentration of
15 0.4-0.5 mg/ml.

The MI preparations were injected into 3 New Zealand white rabbits (5-8 lb. initial weight). Each rabbit was immunized on day 1 with 0.2 mg MI emulsified in an equal volume of Freund's complete
20 adjuvant. A total volume of not more than 2 ml (1:1, MI:adjuvant) per rabbit was injected subcutaneously in at least 6 sites along the hindquarters. Further boosts (days 7, 21, 35 and 56) were performed by the same procedure, with the substitution of Freund's incomplete
25 adjuvant.

Rabbits were bled by ear vein puncture on the day before the first injection (preimmune serum) and on days 28 and 63. Blood was collected into vacuum tubes and allowed to clot for 16 hours at room temperature.
30 The clot was removed and the serum spun for 10 minutes at 2200 rpm to remove any remaining red blood cells. Serum, with sodium azide added to a final concentration of 0.01% (w/v), was stored at -20°C.

Serum was titered using a solid-phase
35 radioimmunoassay; see Tsu et al., "Solid Phase Radioimmunoassays", pp. 373-397 in Selected Methods in Cellular Immunology, B.B. Mishel and S.M. Shiigi, eds.,

Freeman, San Francisco (1980), and Hybridoma Technology in the Biosciences and Medicine, Timothy A. Springer, ed., Plenum Press (1985), pp. 29-36. Metalloproteinase inhibitor was diluted to 0.5 µg/50 ul in carbonate-bicarbonate buffer, pH 9.2 and incubated for 2 h at room temperature in polystyrene wells (50 ul/well). Antigen solution was decanted; wells were then filled with 5% (w/v) BSA for 30 minutes at room temperature to block remaining binding sites on plastic. Dilutions of rabbit serum in PBS containing 1% (w/v) BSA were added to wells (50 ul/well) after the 5% (w/v) BSA was decanted. Incubations were carried out for 2 h at room temperature, then wells were washed with an imidazole-buffered saline containing 0.02% (w/v) Tween 20. ¹²⁵I-Labeled protein A (100,000 cpm/50 ul) was added to wells and incubation was carried out for 30 min at room temperature, followed by a second wash. Wells were snapped apart and counted in a gamma counter. Cpm values were graphed against antiserum dilution to determine 50% titer (the dilution at which the antiserum binds half of the maximum counts bound). Sera obtained from the day 28 bleeds had titers ranging from 1:200 to 1:2500. Sera obtained from the day 63 bleeds had titers ranging from 1:800 to 1:4500.

These antisera were also used for SDS-PAGE with immunoblotting. As indicated in Examples 8 and 9, the antibody recognized a protein band of the expected M_r in preparations of bovine MI, E. coli-expressed recombinant human MI, and CHO cell-expressed recombinant human MI.

EXAMPLE 7

Expression of Recombinant Human Metalloproteinase Inhibitor by Yeast Cells.

The human MI gene was from pUC HMI (Example 3). The MI gene was isolated from pUC HMI as a

586 base pair (bp) PstI to StuI DNA fragment. A synthetic DNA linker with HindIII and PstI sticky ends was used to fuse the MI gene to the yeast MF α 1 in the vector pUC119 α G4 (Figure 10A).

5

The synthetic DNA linker was:

AGCTTGGACAAGAGATGCA
(HindIII) ACCTGTTCTCT (PstI)

10

The vector pUC119 α G4 contains a yeast glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase promoter (GPD-P) followed by the pre-pro sequence (α F-s) and the transcription termination sequence (α F-t) of yeast mating factor α .

15

The vector pUC119 α G4, in detail, consists of the following (see Figure 10A):

I. pUC119 with deletion of HindIII, SalI, SstI and SmaI sites: pUC119 was digested with HindIII plus SalI, followed by S1 nuclease treatment to generate blunt ends, then ligation. The resulting plasmid was further digested with SstI plus SmaI, followed by S1 nuclease treatment, then ligation, resulting in deletion of HindIII, SalI, SstI and SmaI sites. An expression cassette was then introduced into the remaining unique BamHI site.

II. The expression cassette consists of the following:

(i) a 675 bp HindIII to BamHI fragment containing the yeast glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase promoter (GPD-P) [Bitter et al., Gene 32, 263-278 (1984)], where the HindIII site was removed and a BamHI site was added. This was accomplished by digestion with HindIII followed by end-filling with the Klenow fragment of DNA polymerase I. The DNA fragment containing the end-

filled HindIII site was blunt-end ligated into the SmaI site of pUC19.

(ii) A GPD- α -factor linker

5 (Sau3A) met arg phe pro ser ile phe thr ala
GATCACACATAAATAAACAATAATG AGA TTT CCT TCA ATT TTT ACT GCA
TGTGTATTTATTTGTTTAC TCT AAA GGA AGT TAA AAA TG (PstI)

10 (iii) A 218 bp PstI to HindIII fragment containing the
 α -factor pre-pro leader sequence from p α C3 [Zsebo
et al., J. Biol. Chem. 261, 5858-5865 (1986); Bitter
et al., Methods in Enzymol. 153, 516-544 (1987)].

15 (iv) A linker for joining the α -factor pre-pro leader to
the α -factor terminator sequence such as:

HindIII SphI SstI SmaI XhoI BglII (SalI)
AGCTTGCATGCGAGCTCCCCGGGCTCGAGATCTGATAACAACAGTGTAGATGTAACAAA
ACGTACGCTCGAGGGGCCCCGAGCTCTAGACTATTGTTGTCACATCTACATTGTTTTAGCT

20 (v) An α -factor terminator sequence on an approximately
250 bp SalI to BamHI fragment from p α C3, with the SalI
site being destroyed after joining to the linker in (iv).

25 The α -factor-MI gene fusion was accomplished
by digesting pUC119 α G4 with HindIII and SmaI followed by
ligation with the synthetic DNA linker and the MI DNA
fragment. The resultant plasmid pUC119 α G4-HMI depicted
in Figure 10A contains a yeast glyceraldehyde phosphate
30 dehydrogenase promoter (GPD-P) followed successively by
the α -factor pre-pro leader from the yeast MF α 1 gene,
the synthetic DNA linker above, the human
metalloproteinase inhibitor gene DNA segment and
 α -factor transcription terminator. The 1800 bp BamHI
35 DNA fragment containing the elements above was isolated
from pUC119 α G4 by a partial digest with BamHI and

inserted into the BamHI site of the yeast-E. coli shuttle vector pYE3 resulting in the plasmid pYE3αG4-HMI (Figure 10C).

The plasmid pYe3 is shown in Figure 10B and
5 consists of the following:

I. Yeast 2μ (B form) plasmid in pGT41 [Tschumper et al., Gene 23, 221-232 (1983)] where the 2500 bp BamHI to SalI LEU 2 gene segment was deleted by digestion with
10 BamHI plus SalI, and this treatment was followed by mungbean nuclease treatment to generate blunt ends, followed by ligation.

II. A polylinker, whose sequence is shown below, was
15 inserted into a EcoRI site of the modified 2μ plasmid in (I) as shown in Figure 10B.

AATTC GATATC GAT GGTACC CGG GATCC GTCGAC AGATCT G
G CTATAG CTA CCATGG GCC CTAGG CAGCTG TCTAGA CTTAA
EcoRI EcoRV ClaI KpnI SmaI BamHI SalI BglII EcoRI

III. A 852 bp BglII to EcoRI fragment containing the TRP 1 gene [Tschumper et al. Gene 10, 157-166 (1980)] inserted into the BglII and EcoRI sites of the polylinker in (II).

25

The plasmid pYE3αG4-HMI was grown in E. coli strain DH5α, the plasmid DNA was isolated and the DNA was transformed into the S. cerevisiae yeast strain EG45°. Other yeast host cells can also be used as will
30 be apparent to those skilled in the art.

The strain EG45° (supra) was a mutant of the yeast strain SE7-6. The strain SE7-6 (Matα, trp1 deletion, pep4-3, GAL, cup1) was constructed using standard yeast genetic techniques. It was derived from
35 crosses of several yeast strains including: (1) YSDP4 (ATCC 20734) which contains a mutation in the PEP4 gene;

(2) a strain with an ability to grow on galactose [BWG1-7A obtained from L. Guarente, see Guarente et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 79, 7410-7414 (1982) and Cell 36, 503-511 (1984)]; (3) a strain with a deletion of the TRP1 gene (YNN282 Yeast Genetic Stock Center, Berkeley, CA); and (4) a strain with sensitivity to copper (x36567D Yeast Genetic Stock Center, Berkeley, CA). The selection of SE7-6 was made based on its ability to grow on galactose and to secrete heterologous proteins efficiently.

To isolate EG45°, the strain SE7-6 was transformed with the plasmid pCOM(G)P/P. The plasmid pCOM(G)P/P contains an amplifiable copy number system (Figure 11). It can be transformed into yeast trp1 cells by selection for tryptophan prototrophy via the TRP1 ARS1 yeast DNA segment (see Bitter et al., Methods Enzymol., supra). Under normal conditions the plasmid is stable at a copy number of one per cell. Growth on copper-containing medium induces transcription from the CUP promoter (CUP-P) which inhibits centromere (CEN3) function. CUP-T is the CUP terminator region. Therefore copy number increases and plasmid stability decreases. Following removal of copper the plasmids stabilize. Normally the copy number returns to one per cell; however selection for G418 resistance via the Tn5 gene [Jiminez et al. Nature 287, 869-871 (1980)] [controlled by the yeast PGK promoter (PGK-P)] results in cells containing 5-10 copies of plasmid per cell which are stably maintained.

Transformation of EG45° was done by electroporation of plasmid DNA into yeast cells at 900 volts for 5 milliseconds at 25 microfarads in a Bio-Rad gene pulser. Electroporated cells were plated on SD-CAA agar which contains 6.7 g/L yeast nitrogen base without amino acids (Difco), 2% (w/v) glucose, 0.5% (w/v) casamino acids (Difco) and 2% (w/v) agar, and transformed cells were obtained by growth at 30°C.

The transformed cells were grown in a 15 L fermentor using fed-batch fermentation. The medium composition is shown below:

5	Chemicals	Batch	Feed
		medium	medium
	Casamino acids	25 g/L	125 g/L
	Yeast extract	5 g/L	10 g/L
	$(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{PO}_4$	3.8 g/L	5 g/L
10	KH_2PO_4	13.5 g/L	2.8 g/L
	Glucose	2 g/L	533 g/L
	Inositol	0.02 g/L	0.03 g/L
	$\text{MgSO}_4 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (1 M)	4 ml/L	15 ml/L
	Trace metal solution ^a	3 ml/L	6.6 ml/L
15	Vitamin solution ^a	3 ml/L	6.6 ml/L
	Streptomycin sulfate	0.23 g/L	
	Thiamine (10 g/100 ml)	0.6 ml/L	1.6 ml/L

^aTrace metal solution and vitamin solution were the same as described by Tsai et al., J. Industrial. Microbiol. 2, 181-187 (1987).

25 The pH of the medium was maintained at 6.0 and the temperature at 25°C. Dissolved oxygen was controlled by aeration, back pressure and agitation. Cells were grown to OD₆₀₀ of 85-95.

30 EXAMPLE 8

Characterization of Yeast-Secreted Recombinant Human Metalloproteinase inhibitor.

35 Culture medium containing yeast-expressed recombinant human MI was harvested by centrifugation to

remove the cell paste. The supernatant fraction was subjected to SDS-PAGE (reducing conditions) with silver-staining. A band migrating with M_r of about 26,000 (24,000-28,000) was observed for supernatants produced by yeast (strain EG45°) transformants containing pYE3αG4-HMI. The polypeptide represented by this band was present at about 25 to 50 mg per liter of supernatant. The M_r 26,000 band was not observed in control fermentor supernatants. The M_r 26,000 band had the same mobility on SDS-PAGE as MI purified from bovine endothelial cell conditioned medium (Example 1). By SDS-PAGE with silver-staining performed on aliquots (10 μ l) of MI-containing yeast supernatants in unreduced conditions, the M_r 26,000 band was absent, and there was instead an M_r 22,000-23,000 band. Material represented by the M_r 22,000-23,000 band was present at about 2-5 mg per liter of supernatant, and was not seen in control supernatants. To demonstrate that the M_r 26,000 (reduced) and M_r 22,000-23,000 (unreduced) bands represented human MI, a polyclonal antibody raised in rabbits against human MI produced in E. coli (Example 6) was used. SDS-PAGE with immunoblotting (Burnette, Anal. Biochem., supra) was performed using this antibody preparation and a Vectastain ABC kit (Vector laboratories) containing biotinylated anti-rabbit immunoglobulin, avidin, and biotinylated horseradish peroxidase. Immunoreactive bands were seen for supernatants from the yeast strain transfected with the MI gene-containing plasmid (10 μ l loaded) and not for control supernatants. [M_r 26,000 and M_r 18,000 bands were present for reduced samples and M_r 22,000-23,000 band for unreduced samples. The M_r 18,000 (reduced) band is presumed to be a proteolytic breakdown fragment of MI.] The antibody also reacted in immunoblots with MI purified from bovine endothelial cell conditioned medium (350 mU) and with E. coli-produced human MI

(0.3 µg) which indicates that the bands observed in yeast supernatants did in fact represent human MI.

EXAMPLE 9

5

Expression of Human Metalloproteinase Inhibitor in Chinese Hamster Ovary Cells.

1. Construction of an expression vector.

10 To generate expression plasmids, the NcoI to
EcoRI fragment of pUC HMI (Example 3) containing the
intact coding sequence of human MI [including the
sequence coding for the 26-amino acid leader Figure 2)]
was first subcloned into pCFM 1156, from the NcoI to the
15 EcoRI restriction site to give plasmid p1156 HMINR. The
plasmid pCFM 1156 was derived from plasmid pCFM 836 (see
U.S. Patent No. 4,710,473 hereby incorporated by
reference), by destroying the two endogenous NdeI
restriction sites, end filling with T4 DNA polymerase
20 followed by blunt end ligation and substituting the
small DNA sequence between the unique ClaI and KpnI
restriction sites with the following oligonucleotide:

70570 25 ClaI KpnI
5' CGATTGATTCTAGAAGGAGGAATAACATATGGTTAACGCGTTGGAATTCGGTAC 3'
3' TAAACTAAGATCTTCCTCCTTATTGTATACCAATTGCGCAACCTTAAGC 5'

30 The human MI cDNA was retrieved from plasmid p1156 HMINR
as a 0.65 kb HindIII to StuI fragment. This fragment
was then cloned into the expression vector pDSRα2 to
generate plasmid pDSFα2-MI.

35 Plasmid pDSRα2 has the following important
features (following the map in Figure 12 in a clockwise
direction):

(a) SV40 early promoter/enhancer and origin of replication; composed of SV40 sequences between PvuII (SV40 nucleotide map coordinate #272) and HindIII (map coordinate #5172) sites. [DNA Tumor Viruses, J. Tooze, ed., Cold Spring Harbor Laboratories, Cold Spring Harbor, NY (1981), pp. 801-804].

(b) A 267 bp fragment containing the "R" element and part of the "U5" sequences of the long terminal repeat (LTR) of human T-cell leukemia virus type 1 (HTLV-1). This fragment maps at the exact 5' end of "R" (position 354) to the Sau3A site in the U5 sequences (position 620) [Seiki et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 80, 3618-3622 (1983)].

(c) A fragment composed of SV40 16S, 19S splice donor/acceptor signals (map coordinates #502-560 and #1410-1498 joined by an BamHI linker).

The structural organization of the above three segments (a), (b) and (c) is identical to the published vector pCD-SR α [Takebe et al., Mol. Cell. Biol. 8, 466-472 (1988)] with the following modifications: (1) at the 5' end of segment (a), the HindIII site has been destroyed by end-filled ligation done with the Klenow fragment of DNA polymerase I; (2) the original XhoI site between segments (a) and (c) has been destroyed through the insertion of segment (b); (3) at the 3' end of the (c) segment, the original PstI site was changed into a HindIII site.

(d) A transcription termination/polydenylation signal residing on a SalI to BamHI fragment of 2.4 kb. This fragment was obtained from the 3' portion of the α -subunit of bovine pituitary glycoprotein hormone α -FSH (follicle stimulating hormone). A BstXI site at the beginning of the last exon was mutagenized to a SalI site. The 3' end of the fragment continued to the nearest downstream BamHI site. This 2.4 kb fragment was subcloned into a pUC vector and then retrieved as a SalI

to SmaI fragment for further construction of the expression vector.

(e) A mouse dihydrofolate reductase (DHFR) minigene containing the endogenous mouse DHFR promoter, the cDNA coding sequences, and the DHFR transcription termination/polyadenylation signals all as an EcoRI to HindIII fragment of 2.5 kb, retrieved initially from plasmid pMg 1 [Gasser et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 79, 6522-6526 (1982)]. Both of the terminal restriction endonuclease sites, i.e., the 5' EcoRI and the 3' HindIII, were destroyed upon construction of the expression vector.

(f) The "poisonless" pBR322 sequences extending from the HindII site (map coordinate #2448) to EcoRI site (map coordinate #4362) and containing the ampicillin resistance marker gene and the origin for replication of the plasmid in E. coli.

Through multiple steps of subcloning, these six segments of DNA [(a)-(f)] were finally ligated to generate the expression vector pDSRa2; several of the original restriction endonuclease cleavage sites were destroyed or altered during the process. The final structure of the plasmid pDSRa2-MI is thus illustrated in Figure 12 in its circular configuration with these changes clearly depicted.

2. Transfection conditions.

DHFR-deficient (DHFR⁻) Chinese hamster ovary (CHO) cells [Chasin & Urlaub, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 77, 4216-4280 (1980)] were maintained routinely in Dulbecco Modified Eagle's Medium supplemented with 5% (v/v) fetal bovine serum (FBS), L-glutamine (292 µg/ml), non-essential amino acids (100 µM), hypoxanthine (13.6 µg/ml), thymidine (7.6 µg/ml), penicillin (100 U/ml) and streptomycin sulfate (100 µg/ml).

One million cells (plated on a 60 mm dish one day prior to transfection) were transfected separately

with 20 µg of pDSRa2-MI11 or pDSRa2-MI14 (two independently isolated plasmids) plasmid DNA by a modified calcium phosphate precipitation method [Chen et al., Mol. Cell. Biol. 7, 2745-2752 (1987)]. Three days post-transfection, the cells were split to eight 100 mm dishes. At this point, medium lacking hypoxanthine and thymidine, and containing 10% (v/v) dialyzed FBS, was used for the selection of transfectants. Medium was changed every 2-3 days to ensure the selection. At the end of the second week after transfection, twenty-four stable transfectants were selected from each set of dishes for analysis for transcription and translation of the MI gene.

3. Analysis for mRNA transcribed from the recombinant human MI gene.

Total cytoplasmic RNA from transfected CHO cells was prepared as described in Resendez et al. [J. Cell Biol. 103, 2145-2152 (1986)]. Cellular RNA (7.5 µg) was separated by 1% formaldehyde-formamide denaturing agarose gel electrophoresis and transferred onto a GeneScreen Plus membrane. Radiolabeled HindIII to PvuI fragment of pDSRa2-MI11 was used to identify the human MI transcript using the hybridization conditions described by Lin et al. [Gene 44, 201-209 (1986)]. A single RNA band was observed in four of the seven individual stable clones analyzed. The size of the message was 1.5 kb as expected from the construct.

4. Protein analysis and quantitation.

Recombinant human MI was identified and quantitated by SDS-PAGE with immuno-blotting with antibody against human MI as described in Example 8. Conditioned media from stable transfected clones (serum-free; 10-50 µl aliquots) were analyzed. Results indicated that transfected CHO cells secrete a M_r 26,000

(24,000-28,000) (reduced) protein which can be recognized by the antibody. This protein co-migrates with the E. coli-produced recombinant human MI. The transfectant with highest MI expression produced about
5 1 mg/liter/day on a confluent 100 mm tissue culture dish without amplification.

5. Amplification of expression.

MI expression by transfected CHO cell clones
10 was amplified by the use of methotrexate [Kaufman and Sharp, J. Mol. Biol. 159, 601-621 (1982)] in stages of increased concentration (stages of 10 nM, 30 nM, 100 nM, and 300 nM methotrexate). Transfected clones subjected to the 10 nM methotrexate amplification stage when grown
15 in roller bottles as described in Example 10, led to conditioned medium containing MI at levels as high as 20-30 mg/liter at the time of the 6-7 day harvesting. After the 300 nM amplification stage, MI levels as high as 50-60 mg/liter could be obtained upon culturing in
20 the roller bottles.

6. Bioactivity assay.

Activity could be detected in transfected CHO cell supernatants by the type I collagenase inhibition
25 assay described in Example 1. Results are given in Example 10 (Table 8).

EXAMPLE 10

30 Purification of Chinese Hamster Ovary Cell-Expressed Recombinant Human Metalloproteinase Inhibitor.

CHO cells, transfected with the expression vector carrying the human MI gene as described in
35 Example 9 and subjected to the 10 nM methotrexate amplification stage (Example 9), were grown in roller

bottles in serum-free medium, as follows. Initially, the cells were grown in spinner flasks in medium containing Dulbecco's modified MEM supplemented with dialyzed fetal calf serum (5%, v/v), glutamine, and non-essential amino acids, plus F12 nutrient medium; the MEM and F12 medium were present at 50:50 (v:v). Cells were then transferred to 850 cm² roller bottles (2 x 10⁷ cells/bottle) containing the same medium. After three to four days at 37°C, the cell monolayers were washed with PBS and fresh medium (150-200 ml/bottle; as above, but lacking serum) was added. Conditioned medium was harvested 6-7 days later, and replaced with fresh medium again. Six to 7 days later, the additional conditioned medium was harvested.

All subsequent work was done at 4°C unless otherwise indicated. To 20 liters of conditioned medium, sodium azide (final concentration 0.02%, w/v) and the protease inhibitors pepstatin A (final concentration 1 µg/ml) and phenylmethanesulfonyl chloride (PMSF; final concentration 0.6 mM) were added. The medium was concentrated and diafiltered against 1 mM imidazole, 1 M NaCl, pH 7.5 (adjusted with HCl), using a Millipore Pellicon tangential flow ultrafiltration apparatus with 10,000 molecular weight cutoff polysulfone membrane cassette (5 ft² membrane area). Pump rate was about 500 ml/min and filtration rate about 100 ml/min. The final volume of recovered sample was 1 liter. This sample was applied to a Chelating Sepharose Fast Flow (Pharmacia) column (400 ml column volume) which had been saturated with Cu²⁺ by passing a solution of CuSO₄ over the column, and then equilibrated with the 1 mM imidazole, 1 M NaCl, pH 7.5 buffer. Flow rate was 800 ml/h. After sample application, the column was washed with about 1 liter of the imidazole starting buffer. The MI, which was bound to the column, was then eluted with a linear gradient

(20 liters total volume) from the starting buffer to 20 mM imidazole, 1 M NaCl, pH 7.5. Fractions of 420-600 ml were collected and aliquots (0.00033% of fraction volume) were subjected to SDS-PAGE (12.5%, w/v, acrylamide; reduced) with silver-staining. A fraction of 600 ml, representing elution volume 1810-2410 ml in the gradient, contained most of the MI polypeptide (visualized as a band of M_r about 26,000). This fraction was concentrated to about 100 ml using an Amicon stirred cell with an Amicon YM10 membrane, dialyzed against 20 mM Tris-HCl, 1 mM $CaCl_2$, pH 8.5, and applied to a Q-Sepharose Fast Flow (Pharmacia) ion exchange column (40 ml column volume) equilibrated in the same buffer. Flow rate was 120 ml/h. After sample application, the column was washed with about 100 ml of the starting Tris-HCl buffer. The MI, which was bound to the column, was then eluted with a linear gradient of 0 to 0.5 M NaCl in the starting Tris-HCl buffer (total gradient volume 1200 ml). Fractions of 12.6 ml were collected. Aliquots (1 μ l) of the fractions were again analyzed by SDS-PAGE as above, and those containing MI (fractions 25-32 of the gradient) were pooled (100 ml total volume), concentrated to 40 ml using an Amicon stirred cell as above, and applied to a Sephacryl S-200 HR (Pharmacia) gel filtration column (5 x 146 cm) equilibrated with PBS. Fractions of 13 ml were collected, at a flow rate of 80 ml/h. Aliquots (2 μ l) of the fractions were again analyzed by SDS-PAGE as above, and those containing MI (fractions 81-94) were pooled (180 ml). Purity of the MI in the pool, as judged by SDS-PAGE with silver-staining was greater than 95%. The purification scheme is summarized in Table 8.

TABLE 8

Purification of human recombinant MI from CHO-cell conditioned medium

5	Step	Volume (ml)	Total protein (mg) ^a	Total activity (units) ^c	Specific activity (units/mg)
	Conditioned medium	20,000	2870	520,000	180
10	Chelating Sepharose	600	380	334,000	880
	Q-Sepharose	100	310	630,000	2030
	Sephacryl S-200 HR	180	260 ^b	264,000	1015

^a Determined by the method of Bradford (Anal. Bioch., supra) using BSA as standard, except where indicated otherwise.

^b Determined by A_{280nm}, using a value of 1.82 for the absorbance at 280 nm of a 1 mg/ml solution.

^c Activity was determined by the collagen film assay (Example 1, section 2).

20 Inhibitory activity of the purified material was demonstrated by the type I collagenase inhibition assay (Table 8), and by several other in vitro (Example 11) and in vivo (Example 12) methods.

25 A sample of this human MI preparation (about 27 µg) was subjected to amino-terminal amino acid sequencing through 20 cycles, using the methods described in Example 2. The initial yield was 923 pmol and the repetitive yield was 90-93%. The major sequence obtained exactly matched that predicted for mature human
30 MI based on the nucleotide sequence of the human MI gene (Example 3; Figure 2).

Additional methods that are of utility in the purification of the human MI from CHO cell conditioned medium include cation exchange chromatography [e.g. using CM-Sepharose Fast Flow (Pharmacia) at pH 4.5],
35 hydrophobic interaction chromatography [e.g. using

phenyl-Sepharose CL-4B (Pharmacia)], and other methods evident to those skilled in the art.

EXAMPLE 11

5

Demonstration of In Vitro Inhibitory Activities in Recombinant Human MI Preparations.

The data described in this Example were
10 obtained using E. coli-derived recombinant human MI [prepared as in Example 5, where so indicated; otherwise, the E. coli-derived material used was prepared essentially as in Example 5 except that
15 dithioerythritol (5 mM) was present during the pH 11.5 treatment described in Example 5, and the material was held at pH 11 overnight and then made 2 mM in CaCl₂ and clarified by centrifugation prior to the DEAE-Sepharose chromatography; this latter material had inhibitory activity of about 369 U/ml (specific activity about
20 355 U/mg) measured by the type 1 collagenase inhibition assay described in Example 1, section 2] or CHO-derived recombinant human MI prepared as in Example 10.

1. Type I collagenase inhibition; SDS-gelatin PAGE;
25 SDS-gelatin PAGE with proteinases as samples; inhibition of specific collagen cleavage.

E. coli-derived human MI was also analyzed by SDS-gelatin PAGE (Figure 13; method as described in Example 1, section 4b). The legend to Figure 13 is as
30 follows (all samples were unreduced):

Lane 1, peak II-derived inhibitor from bovine endothelial cells (24 mU);

Lane 2, peak I-derived inhibitor (MI) from bovine endothelial cells (50 mU);

35 Lane 3, human MI prepared from E. coli (Example 5; 92 mU);

Lane 4, human MI preparation from E. coli
(Example 5; 420 mU);

Lane 5 and 6, buffer only lanes.

Noting the dark zones in lanes 1-4, it is apparent that
5 all of the indicated inhibitor preparations, including
the recombinant preparations from E. coli, have proteins
of the expected molecular weights with inhibitory
activity as judged by this method.

The method of SDS-gelatin PAGE with
10 proteinases as samples (Example 1, section 4c) was also
used to analyze the E. coli-produced recombinant human
MI (Figure 14). In Figure 14, lanes marked "control"
were incubated overnight with no inhibitor additions;
lanes marked "EDTA" were incubated with 20 mM EDTA
15 present; lanes marked "rMI" were incubated with E. coli-
produced human MI (preparation of Example 4, 423
mU/ml). The samples electrophoresed prior to the
overnight incubations were: lanes 1, human plasmin, 50
µg; lanes 2, bovine trypsin, 0.3 µg; lanes 3, 5 µl of
20 100-fold concentrated and APMA-activated conditioned
medium from metastatic tumor cells [c-Ha-ras-transfected
rat embryo fibroblasts, as source of type IV
collagenase; conditioned medium prepared according to
Garbisa et al., Canc. Res. 47, 1523-1528 (1987)];
25 lanes 4, APMA-activated conditioned medium from TPA-
treated rabbit synovial fibroblasts (4 mU of collagenase
I activity loaded; see Example 1, section 2). It is
apparent that the recombinant MI inhibits the type I and
type IV collagenases, but does not inhibit plasmin and
30 trypsin (which are not metalloproteinases). EDTA also
inhibits the collagenases, as expected.

The recombinant human MI from E. coli also
inhibited the specific collagen cleavage characteristic
of mammalian collagenases (see Example 1 and
35 Figure 7). Experiments showing this were done
essentially as described for Figure 7 in Example 1,

using the recombinant human MI (Example 5) at about 2 µg/ml in the incubations. Results were equivalent to those shown in Figure 7 for the bovine MI from endothelial cells.

5 Human MI from CHO cells had inhibitory activity of about 1537 U/ml (specific activity about 1067 U/mg measured by the type I collagenase inhibition assay described in Example 1, section 2). It is noted that this specific activity, and specific activity in
10 other assays described below, is higher for the recombinant human MI from CHO cells than for that from E. coli. It is expected that this difference is due to the fact that some portion of the polypeptide chains in the E. coli-derived preparation are not in the native
15 conformation and may also have incorrect disulfide bonds; and that one skilled in the art can arrive at procedures for solubilization, folding, oxidation (disulfide bond formation), and purification of E. coli derived human MI such that E. coli-derived human MI
20 would have specific activities comparable to those of CHO cell-derived human MI.

Recombinant human MI from CHO cells also had inhibitory activity as judged by SDS-gelatin PAGE, and by inhibition of the specific collagen cleavage
25 characteristic of mammalian collagenases. In each case the results obtained were similar to those described in the preceding paragraphs for recombinant human MI from E. coli.

30 2. Inhibition of metalloproteinases secreted by metastatic cells.

Serum-free conditioned medium from c-Ha-ras transfected rat embryo cells (4R), which are highly metastatic [Pozzatti et al., Science 243, 947-950
35 (1986)], was used as a source of metalloproteinases. The experiments in Figure 15 show that recombinant human

MI from CHO cells completely inhibits the degradation of type I and type IV collagen by metalloproteinases secreted by 4R cells. The legend to Figure 15 is as follows. The 4R cells were grown in MEM with penicillin (100 U/ml) and streptomycin (100 µg/ml). The medium was harvested after 24 h of incubation, concentrated 100-fold using an Amicon stirred cell with YM10 membrane, and treated with APMA (1 mM, 37°C, 30 min) to activate metalloproteinases. Aliquots of the activated medium were then added to microtiter wells coated with ¹⁴C-labeled rat skin type I collagen [6,000 cpm/well (specific radioactivity 300 cpm/µg); 50 µl of medium added per well; Figure 15A] or ¹⁴C-labeled type IV collagen [2,100 cpm/well (specific radioactivity 30,000 cpm/µg); 100 µl of medium added per well; Figure 15B] in the presence of increasing amounts of the recombinant human MI. Incubations were done at 37°C for 3 h (type I collagen) or 16 h (type IV collagen) in a total volume of 200 µl including 50 mM Tris-HCl, 200 mM NaCl, 10 mM CaCl₂, pH 7.5 and 10 mM N-ethylmaleimide plus 2 mM PMSF. Radioactivity released to the supernatants was determined, and results are expressed as percentages of the radioactivity released in the absence of inhibitor (% inhibition).

25

3. E. coli - derived recombinant human MI (Table 9) and CHO cell-derived recombinant human MI (Table 10) both inhibited the degradation of type I collagen which occurs in the presence of tumor cells. The tumor cells used were c-Ha-ras transfected rat embryo fibroblasts (4R cells), since they secrete large amounts of metalloproteinases and actively degrade collagen and connective tissue (Alvarez et al., J. National Cancer Inst., in press, 1990).

35

TABLE 9

Effect of E. coli-derived recombinant human MI on the degradation of type I collagen by 4R cells

	Inhibitor concentration ($\mu\text{g/ml}$)	^{14}C -labeled type I collagen degraded ($\mu\text{g/24 h}$)	Inhibition (%)
5	0	26.4 ± 0.8	0
	0.5	27.9 ± 1.9	0
	5.0	21.5 ± 2.8	19
	25.0	12.3 ± 3.1	53
10	50.0	12.5 ± 5.2	53

Tumor cells were plated at 10^5 per microtiter well on ^{14}C -labeled rat skin type I collagen (15,000 cpm/well; specific radioactivity 300 cpm/ μg) in the presence of 200 μl of Eagle minimal essential medium supplemented with 10% (v/v) FBS (acid-treated to inactivate serum proteinase inhibitors), penicillin (100 U/ml), and streptomycin (100 $\mu\text{g/ml}$).

After 24 h at 37°C , the degradation of type I collagen was determined by measuring the radioactivity released to the supernatant. The $\mu\text{g/24 h}$ values represent the mean \pm standard deviation for triplicate wells.

TABLE 10

Effect of CHO cell-derived recombinant human MI on the degradation of type I collagen by 4R cells

	Inhibitor concentration ($\mu\text{g/ml}$)	^{14}C -labeled type I collagen degraded ($\mu\text{g/24 h}$)	Inhibition (%)
	0	26.4 ± 0.8	0
25	0.5	28.5 ± 1.8	15
	5.0	12.9 ± 1.1	51
	25.0	4.3 ± 1.6	84
	50.0	1.9 ± 1.7	93

Experimental details as for Table 9.

4. E. coli-derived recombinant human MI (Table 11; Figure 16) and CHO cell-derived recombinant human MI (Table 12; Figure 17) both inhibited the degradation of connective tissue matrices deposited by rat smooth muscle cells which occurs in the presence of tumor cells. The 4R cells were again used.

The matrices contain glycoprotein and types I and III collagens in a highly cross-linked and native form [Jones and De Clerck, Cancer Res. 40, 3220-3227 (1980)].

5

TABLE 11

Effect of E. coli-derived recombinant human MI on the degradation of connective tissue matrices by 4R cells

T.0700

10	Inhibitor concentration ($\mu\text{g/ml}$)	Matrix degradation		Inhibition (%)
		cpm/dish	% of total matrix	
	0	57,590	35.9	0
	0.1	56,540	33.2	1.8
	1.0	42,550	25.5	26.2
	10.0	25,320	14.1	56.1
15	25.0	19,740	11.2	65.8

[³H]Proline-labeled matrices produced by rat smooth muscle cells in culture were prepared as described (Jones and De Clerck, Cancer Res., supra). They contained 15% of [³H]proline in the form of glycoproteins and 85% in the form of type I and type III collagens. 4R cells were plated on the matrices at 2×10^5 cells/35 mm dish with 2 ml of the medium described in Table 9. Medium was changed daily with the indicated concentrations of MI also included daily with the fresh medium. Degradation of matrices was determined by measuring radioactivity released to the supernatants. The cpm/dish results represent the means of cumulative [³H]proline release (above release for background cases with no cells) after 6 days for quadruplicate dishes.

30

35

Figure 16 shows the cumulative degradation on a daily basis for the experiment described in Table 11. In Figure 16, the symbols correspond to MI concentrations used, as follows: o, 0 $\mu\text{g/ml}$; ●, 0.1 $\mu\text{g/ml}$; ▲, 1 $\mu\text{g/ml}$; ■, 10 $\mu\text{g/ml}$; ◆, 25 $\mu\text{g/ml}$.

TABLE 12

Effect of CHO cell-derived recombinant human MI on the degradation of connective tissue matrices by 4R cells

T, 0710

	Inhibitor concentration ($\mu\text{g/ml}$)	Matrix degradation		Inhibition (%)	Cell Number at day 6 ($\times 10^{-6}/\text{dish}$)
		cpm/dish	% of total matrix		
	0	69,330	62	0	4.12 ± 0.18
15	0.05	64,220	57	8	4.50 ± 0.07
	0.5	39,154	35	44	4.36 ± 0.21
	5.0	20,314	18	71	4.56 ± 0.07
	5.0 added only on days 4, 5	47,920	43	31	4.57 ± 0.07

Experimental details as for Table 11. In this experiment, it was demonstrated that the presence of inhibitor had no effect on the growth of cells, as judged by counting the number of cells present after trypsinization at day 6 (see column titled 'cell number at day 6').

Figure 17 shows the cumulative degradation on a daily basis for the experiment described in Table 12. In Figure 17, the symbols correspond to MI concentrations used, as follows: o, 0 $\mu\text{g/ml}$; ●, 0.05 $\mu\text{g/ml}$; ▲, 0.5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$; ■, 5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$; ◆, 5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ (but added only on days 4 and 5).

5. Effects of recombinant human MI on tumor cell growth and attachment.

An effect of MI on tumor cell growth or attachment as an explanation of the results in sections 3 and 4 above is further ruled out by the following experiments. 4R cells were plated at 10^4 cells per 35 mm dish in 2 ml of MEM supplemented with 10% (v/v)

FBS. E. coli-derived recombinant human MI was added daily to the culture. Cell numbers were measured by trypsinization and counting with a Coulter counter. Results are shown in Figure 18A, where 'cells per dish' values represent the means \pm standard deviations for duplicate dishes and the symbols represent different MI concentrations used (o, 0 μ g/ml; ●, 1 μ g/ml, Δ , 10 μ g/ml). The MI clearly had no effect on the growth of the tumor cells.

10 It was also demonstrated that CHO cell-derived human recombinant MI does not inhibit the attachment of 4R cells to a reconstituted basement membrane preparation [Matrigel™ (Collaborative Research, Bedford, MA)]. Microtiter wells were coated with 50 μ g
15 Matrigel and 50,000 cells per well were added in 200 μ l MEM supplemented with 0.1% (w/v) BSA, penicillin (100 U/ml), and streptomycin (100 μ g/ml). At the times indicated (Figure 18B), non-adherent cells were removed by gentle pipetting/washing using PBS and counted. The
20 remaining adherent cells were removed by trypsinization and counted. 'Percent adherent cells' (Figure 18) values represent the percentage of total cells which were adherent and are the means \pm standard deviations for triplicate wells. The symbols represent the absence
25 of MI (o) and the presence of MI at 10 μ g/ml (●).

6. Inhibition of the invasion by tumor cells of a smooth muscle cell layer.

For this work, methods described by Jones et al. [Cancer Res. 41, 4613-4620 (1981)] were followed.
30 Rat smooth muscle cells (R22 clone F) were plated at 2×10^5 cells per 35 mm dish (2 ml medium) and grown for two weeks with daily additions of ascorbic acid (50 μ g/ml). 4R cells were then added (2×10^5 cells per
35 dish) and cocultured with the smooth muscle cells in the presence of MEM supplemented with 10% (w/v) FBS (acid-

treated). After 21 days of coculture, the cultures were washed with 0.15 M NaCl and fixed in situ with 2% (w/v) glutaraldehyde in 0.1 M phosphate buffer, pH 7.3. The fixed cultures were then dehydrated by a graded series
5 of ethanol washes and embedded in Epon:Araldite (50:50). Thick sections were cut at right angles to the surface, stained with toluidine blue, and examined by light microscopy. Results are illustrated in Figure 19, where A represents smooth muscle cells above, B
10 represents smooth muscle cells plus 4R cells, and C is similar to B except that CHO cell-derived recombinant human MI was added every 2 days at a concentration of 10 µg/ml. Note in B that tumor cells (arrows) are present on both sides of the smooth muscle cell layer,
15 while in C they are present only on top of the smooth muscle cell layer. Thus the MI inhibits invasion of the smooth muscle cell layer by the tumor cells.

From the data of sections 1-6 of this Example,
20 and from the SDS-PAGE with immunoblot analyses done on bovine MI, yeast-expressed recombinant human MI, and CHO cell-expressed recombinant human MI using polyclonal antibody against E. coli-produced human MI (see Examples 6, 8 and 9), it is definitively proved that the
25 isolated/cloned bovine and human genes described in Example 3 do in fact represent genes for MI.

EXAMPLE 12

30

Inhibition of Metastasis by Recombinant Human MI in an In Vivo Murine Model.

A mouse model involving metastasis to the lung
35 after injection of B16 mouse melanoma tumor cells [Fidler, Nature 242, 148-149 (1973)] was used. The B16

cells (clone F10) were obtained from Dr. J. Fidler (Houston, Texas) and were first grown subcutaneously in C57BL6 mice and cultured in vitro from the primary tumor nodules. Cells after a second in vitro passage were
5 stored as frozen stocks. Cells from frozen stock were cultured for two days in MEM supplemented with sodium pyruvate (1 mM), non-essential amino acids (0.1 mM), L-glutamine (1 mM), penicillin (200 U/ml), streptomycin (200 µg/ml), MEM vitamin solution (1%, v/v), and 10%
10 (v/v) FBS. Subconfluent cultures were briefly trypsinized (1-2 min), collected in serum-containing medium, and suspended in PBS at a final concentration of 5×10^5 cells/ml. Cell viability was 97% as determined by trypan blue exclusion.

15 The animals used for the model were C57BL6 J mice, obtained from Jackson Laboratories (Maine), and observed for 1 week in the animal facility prior to the start of experiments. MI-treated animals (9) were injected with CHO cell-derived recombinant human MI
20 (prepared as described in Example 10; 4.45 mg/ml in sterile PBS) into the peritoneal cavity (0.25 ml per injection = 1.1 mg per injection). Control animals were injected with 0.25 ml sterile PBS. The injections were done 13 h and 1 h prior to injection of tumor cells
25 (7 animals) or at the time of tumor cell injection (2 animals). All animals then received additional injections of MI (treated animals) or vehicle (control animals) at 12 h intervals for a total of 5.5 days after injection of tumor cells. The B16 melanoma cells were
30 injected into the lateral tail vein of each mouse (1.25×10^5 cells in 0.25 ml). All injections were alternated between MI-treated and control animals. Two weeks after injection of tumor cells, animals were sacrificed by CO₂ euthanasia and lungs were examined for the presence of
35 surface tumor colonies after intratracheal injection of Bouin's solution. Each lung was dissected into 5

separate lobes and colonies on each lobe were counted under a dissecting microscope. Results are given in Table 13.

5

TABLE 13

Formation of lung nodules after injection of B16 tumor cells into MI-treated vs. control mice

T.0750

Group	Number of animals	Number of lung nodules in each animal	Mean number of lung nodules (\pm standard error)
MI-treated	9	1,3,5,6,6,8,107,10*,80*	25.9 \pm 4.1
Control	9	7,37,45,67,82,111,127,132,264	96.9 \pm 7.9

15

* The 2 animals that were not treated with MI 13 h and 1 h prior to injection of tumor cells.

20

The results of Table 13 indicate a substantial and highly significant ($0.01 < p < 0.05$ by the Wilcoxon rank sum test) reduction in the appearance of lung tumor nodules as a result of the MI treatment.

25

EXAMPLE 13

Hematopoietic Activity of Recombinant Human Metalloproteinase Inhibitor.

30

Erythroid potentiating activity of recombinant human MI was demonstrated using a one-stage in vitro assay for BFU-E (burst forming units-erythroid) [Dukes et al., Experimental Hematology 13, 59-66 (1985)].

Peripheral blood was obtained from a normal volunteer

35

donor and heparinized. Mononuclear cells were removed by centrifugation on Ficoll-Hypaque (Pharmacia) at 400 x g for 30 min. Cells were cultured at 4.1×10^5 cells per 35 mm dish in Iscove's modification of Dulbecco's medium, containing 0.8% (w/v) methyl cellulose, 30% (v/v) fetal calf serum, and 1.27 U/ml erythropoietin (AM-EPO, PC grade recombinant; Amgen Inc.). The recombinant human MI (derived from CHO cells; prepared as described in Example 10) was added at the indicated concentrations (Table 14) prior to plating the cells. After 10 days of incubation in a humidified atmosphere of 95% air-5% CO₂ at 37°C, colonies consisting of 3 or more subcolonies of erythroid cells or large single accumulations of erythroid cells (>300 cells) were scored as BFU-derived colonies. For each BFU-E determination, the colonies in the central 20% of the volume of 5 replicate dishes were counted. Results are given in Table 14.

TABLE 14
BFU-E potentiating activity of CHO cell-derived recombinant human MI

	MI concentration (nM)	Number of BFU-E colonies	Mean number of colonies (± standard error)
25			
Experiment 1	0	10,6,5,6,5	6.4 ± 0.94
	0.001	7,4,4,9,5	5.8 ± 0.98
	0.01	10,8,8,4,9	7.8 ± 1.03
	0.1	4,8,5,5,5	5.4 ± 0.68
	1.0	14,11,11,8,9	10.6 ± 1.04
	10.0	5,12,12,17,11	11.4 ± 1.94
30			
Experiment 2	0	4,3,2,4,3	3.2 ± 0.38
	0.01	4,3,3,3,3	3.2 ± 0.2
	0.1	3,3,2,4,4	3.2 ± 0.38
	1.0	9,11,7,5,6	7.6 ± 1.09
	10.0	7,10,12,8,5	8.4 ± 1.23
	100.0	7,6,6,7,8	6.8 ± 0.83

The activity is evident for MI concentrations ≥ 1 nM in the assay.

* * *

While the present invention has been described
in terms of preferred embodiments, it is understood that
variations and modifications will occur to those skilled
5 in the art. Therefore, it is intended that the appended
claims cover all such equivalent variations which come
within the scope of the invention as claimed.

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